



# National Park Service Commercial Services Program Fuel Storage Management Aboveground Storage Tanks

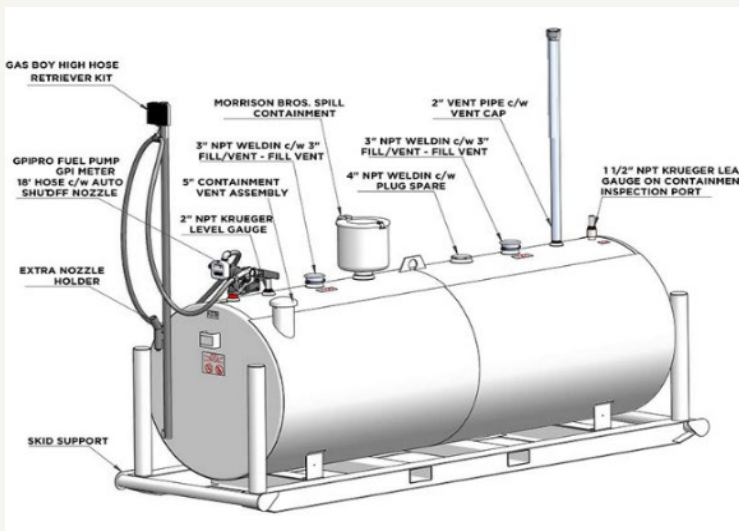


## Fuel Storage Management

There are several ways to store bulk fuel, including above ground storage tanks (AST). ASTs are regulated under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and National Fire Protection Administration, and may be regulated under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure program. There may be additional EPA-authorized state regulations or various industry standards that facilities should be aware of depending on their location and site-specific factors.

### Tank Requirements

- All tanks must:
  - Be registered with state or local authorities.
  - Include safety precautions such as "No Smoking" signs, content/danger placards, and physical barriers to prevent impact by vehicle or tampering by persons.
- Maintain the AST in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and conduct routine testing of the tank and pipe system.
- Conform to tank and tank system construction requirements including protective coatings, vents, warning systems, floating prevention, etc.
- When temporarily or permanently closing ASTs, follow state regulatory closure requirements accordingly.



### AST Construction Requirements

- Must be made of materials which are compatible with the intended contents.
- Must have collision barriers or impact prevention methods.
- Secondary containment for ASTs must meet the following requirements:
  - Built to reflect the capacity of the AST
  - Proper location of piping
  - Accidental release prevention
- There must be at least three feet between ASTs.
- Tank supports must be installed on firm foundations designed to minimize uneven settling and corrosion.
- Unsupervised tanks must be protected from tampering or trespassing.
- Each compartment of the AST must have emergency relief venting.

## Alternate Storage Area Requirements

- Diked storage areas:
  - Must have sufficient capacity for the largest tank and dike walls must be 5 feet from the tank and liquid-tight.
  - No loose combustible material, drums, or barrels allowed within the diked area.
  - Any drains are controlled to prevent liquids from entering natural water courses, public sewers, or public drains.
- For ASTs stored in storage tank buildings:
  - The building must be constructed to maintain structural integrity for 2 hours in a fire and to provide access for unobstructed movement of all personnel and fire protection equipment.
  - There must be fire protection and ventilation to the outdoors.



## AST Equipment Requirements

- Filling and emptying connections located outside of buildings must be free from any source of ignition and not less than five feet away from any building.
- ASTs over 1,320 gallons must have equipment or management methods in place to prevent the overfilling of tanks, for example, using a tank gauge system.

## Recordkeeping Requirements

- Facilities with ASTs are required to keep inventory and registration records.
- These records include, but are not limited to, notifications, inspections, corrosion protection, repairs, releases, and others.



*Please note, this fact sheet does not cover all requirements and situations related to aboveground storage tanks. In addition to checking federal regulations, be sure to check your state and local regulations. For any operational questions or emergency situations, please contact your park concession specialist. For more information pertaining to compliance with aboveground storage tank requirements, please email [cs\\_envaudits@nps.gov](mailto:cs_envaudits@nps.gov) or contact the applicable regulatory authority.*