

## TANK REMOVAL CHECKLIST

1. Call & arrange all local utilities to locate and mark underground lines.
2. Notify local agencies as required for traffic control, permitting, fire department, and police department.
3. Conduct site inspection prior to commencement of work.
4. Once on site, complete Site Safety Plan and obtain signatures of all present.
5. Identify, rope-off/barricade site (50 ft around excavation).
6. Locate and isolate tank, prepare site plan sketch. Note tank and line locations, buildings, streets, label tank sizes and product, fuel islands.
7. Remove drop tube, drain and flush piping, excavate to top of tank, plug pipe ends. Remove submerged pump, and extractor fitting. Leave vent line in place.
8. Remove all product and residue from tank, (vacuum truck or explosion-proof pump).
9. The tank should be made safe by **purging** it of vapors: 1) eductor pulls air through the vent line and out the eductor (leave drop tube in place) to remove vapors, 2) diffused air blower attached to air compressor pulls air into tank (remove drop tube) and out the vent line. After purging take CGI readings at several openings, at different levels in tank until it reads below 20% LEL.
10. Another method is **inerting** the tank by replacing oxygen with (15 to 25 lbs per 1,000 gallon capacity) dry ice or compressed gas (CO<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>4</sub>). Do not pressure more than 5 psig. To inert a 10,000 gal tank, you'll need about four 50 lb. bottles of gas. All openings except the vent are plugged, and oxygen indicator level should be from 0% to 7%.
11. A purged or inerted tank can return to flammable status, so readings should be taken regularly during entire time tanks are on site. Include areas lower than grade and in the immediate vicinity of the tank(s).
12. Once tank is vapor-safe, remove all purging or inerting equipment, and close all openings with threaded plugs. Disconnect the vent line. Close the vent opening with a threaded plug that has a 1/8" (API) or 1/4" (NFPA) hole pre-drilled through it to allow tank to breathe in response to temperature changes.
13. Excavate backfill to midline of tanks and place backfill on impermeable plastic sheeting or liner. The stockpiled soil should be covered with plastic and bermed if rain is possible within 48 hours.
14. Remove tank from excavation, never drag or roll it. Set on trailer for transport.
15. Label tank with product, not safe for storage, etc., and date.
16. Obtain soil samples in native soil under each tank, downgradient wall, every 20 feet of piping, and under dispensers.
17. Obtain backfill samples at rate of 1 per 50 cu yds.
18. Complete chain of custody, place on ice, and transport samples to laboratory within 24 hours. Backfill sample analysis should be completed within 24 hours.