



City of Thornton Fire Department | 2300 Thornton Parkway | Thornton, CO 80229
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General Requirements for Underground Flammable and Combustible Liquids Tank Removal

- Tanks shall be removed in accordance with 2024 International Fire Code Chapter 57, including Section 5704.2.14, *Removal and Disposal of Tanks*, and federal and state regulations.
- Flammable or combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank and connected piping.
- Piping at tank openings that is not to be used further shall be disconnected from the tank and removed from the ground.

Exception: Piping is allowed to be abandoned in place where the fire code official determines that removal is not practical. Abandoned piping shall be capped and safeguarded as required by the fire code official.

- All tank openings shall be capped or plugged, leaving a 1/8-inch to 1/4-inch diameter opening for pressure equalization.
- The Flammable and Combustible (F&C) liquids tank may need to be purged or inerted to reduce flammable vapors in the tank to below the lower flammable limit.
- F&C liquids tanks and appurtenances shall be removed by a contractor with extensive training/experience who fully understands proper classification for flammable and combustible liquids, grounding and bonding, static discharge potential, relative operational issue controls, proficient use of special instruments and equipment, to safely perform the work.
- Tanks shall be placarded appropriately for transportation and shall be transported to an approved EPA disposal facility.
- The site shall be secured in an approved manner until the excavation is backfilled.
- A record of the tank size, serial number, location, date of removal, and certificate of disposal shall be forwarded to the Fire Department after removal.
- The contractor is responsible for conducting a subsurface assessment per state and federal regulations to document whether or not the subsurface has been impacted by hydrocarbons. Copies of the assessment and remediation plan shall be forwarded to the Fire Department.

All service providers who inspect, test and repair fire protection systems within Thornton's jurisdiction are required to register and submit all tests, inspection and service reports via The Compliance Engine. All reports must be submitted in accordance with the testing schedule and requirements outlined in the adopted fire code and amendments.