




Decommissioning Underground Fuel Tanks

Overview

This handout outlines the requirements to obtain a permit to remove or abandon-in-place (decommission) underground fuel or storage tanks that are no longer in use. Underground tanks used to store flammable or combustible liquid that have been out of service for one year shall be decommissioned as required by State and Local codes. Under certain conditions, a commercial-type tank may be abandoned-in-place.

Apply On-Line at MyBuildingPermit.com
Select: King County | Fire | (Project Type) | Decommission | Storage Tanks



Residential Properties¹

Certification for Removal or Abandonment-in-Place of a residential underground fuel storage tank requires a permit issued by the Department of Local Services, Permitting Division (Permitting). The following requirements must be met:

- A. A certified contractor approved by the King County Fire Marshal must be used for tank removal or abandonment. Permitting list of approved [Fuel Tank Installation and Decommissioning contractors](#).
- B. The permit applicant certifies that the tank has been properly removed or abandoned (decommissioned).
- C. The contractor will provide the homeowner with a copy of the King County permit, a copy of the rinse receipt and a site plan. The rinse receipt acknowledges the tank has been cleaned and disposed of per the requirements of the Department of Ecology standards.
- D. No inspection is required.
- E. No fee for this permit.

Multi-Family and Commercial Properties

Removal or abandoned-in-place of a commercial underground fuel storage tank requires a permit issued by the Permitting Division. The following requirements must be met:

- A. A Site Plan is required at application submittal for Commercial and Multi-Family permits. Site Plan requirements:
 - a. All property lines and buildings on the property;

¹ Residential property includes single family, duplexes and townhomes (up to four units).

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- b. The location of the tank(s) in proximity to buildings and/or property lines (indicate separation distances in feet);
- c. The type of liquid the tanks held (fuel-oil, gasoline, etc.)
- d. The size (in gallons) of the tank(s)
- e. Indicate removal or abandonment in-place

B. Fee required, see [Multi-family or Commercial – Plan review and inspection fees](#)

C. A Permitting Division inspection is required.

D. The permit applicant certifies that the tank will be properly removed or abandoned (decommissioned). The contractor will provide the property owner with a copy of the King County permit record, a copy of the rinse receipt, and a site plan. The rinse receipt acknowledges the tank has been cleaned and disposed of properly per the requirements of the Department of Ecology standards.

Additional information or for clarification on whether a specific commercial tank must be removed, contact the Permitting Division at 206-296-6600 or by email, DPERwebinquiry@kingcounty.gov.

Obtaining a permit to remove or abandon an Underground Fuel Storage Tank

Go to MyBuildingPermit.com The permit type selections are:

Jurisdiction: King County

Application Type: Fire

Project Type: (Choose Type)

Activity Type: Decommission

Scope of Work: Storage Tanks

Apply On-Line at MyBuildingPermit.com

Select: King County | Fire | (Project Type) | Decommission | Storage Tanks



If you have questions or would like to inquire about alternatives, please email DPERWebInquiries@kingcounty.gov.

Additional Resources

King County [Department of Local Services, Permitting Division](#)

[Permit Fees](#)

[On-line Permit Status, Invoice Payment and Inspection Scheduling](#)

[IVR Inspection Scheduling, phone number and codes](#)

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Solid Waste, [What Do I Do With?](#)

Public Health – Seattle & King County

[Solid Waste Disposal in King County; Waste Characterization Program \(Fuel Tanks\)](#)

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Washington State [Department of Ecology](#)

[Underground Tank Closures](#)

[Pollution Liability Insurance Agency](#) (PLIA) – Home Heating Oil Tank Insurance and Technical Support Services

