

**CODE OF ORDINANCES**  
**Chapter 8**  
**FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION**

**Article I. WATER RESERVOIRS**

Sec. 8-1. Fire Department Water Reservoir Installation Requirements

The following is a summary of the Portland Fire Department's requirements for the installation of new or upgraded underground water storage tanks and more accurately define the requirements of the Fire Department and only apply to the use of underground water sources.

*The Fire Chief and Fire Marshal will review all subdivision applications to determine compliance with this ordinance. At their discretion and based on the proximity, availability and accessibility of other water sources, the Fire Chief and Fire Marshal may modify the water reservoir requirement listed below.*

Sub dividers must provide emergency water reservoirs as follows:

5 – 40 lots: One 10,000 gallon tank  
41 – 80 lots: Two 10,000 gallon tanks  
81 – 120 lots: Three 10,000 gallon tanks  
Above 120 lots, one additional tank for every 40 lots

1. The minimum capacity of each tank shall be 10,000 gallons or larger by order of the Fire Chief
2. The Fire Department has the right to designate the best location of the tank
3. Sand bedding and back fill will be used on all tank installations
4. All tanks will be hydrostatically tested and coated to NFPA 22 standards
5. The finished height of the Drafting Pipe shall be 24-inches above the finished roadway surface, measuring from the centerline of the 5-inch female Storz connection (NOTE: This is not the distance above grade at the pipe)
6. The Drafting Pipe shall extend to within 6-inches of the bottom of the tank. The total length of the Drafting Pipe shall be kept to a minimum after meeting item #1. The Drafting Pipe must be 6-inches in diameter and terminate with a 6-inch 45 degree elbow and except a 6-inch female Fire Thread Swivel Connection with plug and chain
7. A screened 4-inch diameter vent pipe, (2) elbows or (1) 180 degree bend with the opening facing downward shall be included on all tanks

8. A 4-inch diameter fill pipe shall be provided on each tank which shall terminate with an elbow to accept a 2 ½-inch female Fire Thread Connection with protective cap and chains.
9. The maximum distance from the road edge to the Drafting Pipe shall not exceed 8-feet. This will allow the fire apparatus to position on the road surface, and easily start a draft using one standard length of hard suction
10. All above ground piping shall be primed and painted as follows:
  - a. Red: 6-inch drafting pipe
  - b. White: 4-inch vent pipe
  - c. Yellow: Fill pipe
11. The Town of Portland will provide “NO PARKING” signs to be installed at the sight by the installer
12. The top of all tanks shall be 4-feet below the finish grade to prevent freezing
13. A 48-hour notification of inspection must be given to the Public Works Director, Fire Marshal, and Fire Chief. Approvals of new or upgraded installation must be approved by the same
14. Tanks will be filled by the Portland Fire Department after inspection and approval. Any mutual aid company may use the tank but must refill it after use. Notification of usage must be made to the Fire Chief’s office as soon as possible
15. This document and all other supporting documents shall be provided to the developer and installer prior to any work being performed. It is the installer’s responsibility to understand this document and all other specifications. This is NOT an engineering specification.

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