


Local Government Bylaws & Reporting Requirements for Out of Service Home & Business Heating Oil Tanks

Provincial Legislation (Province-wide)



BC Fire Code (2012 edition)

4.3.16. Out of Service

4.3.16.1. Underground Storage Tanks

1. The removal, abandonment in place, disposal or temporary taking out of service of an underground storage tank shall be in conformance with good engineering practice. (See Appendix A.)

4.3.16.2. Aboveground Storage Tanks

1. When an aboveground *storage tank* will be out of service or unsupervised for a period not exceeding 180 days, the piping from the tank shall be capped or the valves that are necessary to achieve the similar isolation of the tank shall be closed and securely locked.
2. Where a storage tank referred to in Sentence (1) contains *flammable liquids* or *combustible liquids*, the liquid level in the tank shall be measured and compared with subsequent readings taken at intervals not greater than one month.
3. When an aboveground *storage tank* will be out of service or unsupervised for a period exceeding 180 days, all liquid and vapours shall be removed from the storage tank and its connected piping.

4.3.16.3. Disposal

1. Where a *storage tank* is to be permanently disposed of, sufficient openings shall be cut in the tank to render it unfit for further use.

4.3.16.4. <Underground Piping Systems

1. The removal, abandonment in place, disposal or temporary taking out of service of an underground piping system shall be in conformance with good engineering practice. (See A-4.3.16.1.(1) in Appendix A.)>

Additional information:

- [CRD Homeowner's Guide: Home Heating Oil Tanks \(PDF\)](#)
- [Residential Heating Oil Storage Tanks, Ministry of Environment \(PDF\)](#)
- [32 Facts on Contaminated Sites: Residential Heating Oil Storage Tanks, Ministry of Environment \(PDF\)](#)

Local Bylaws - Additional Requirements

The Installation Code for oil burning equipment (CAN/CSA B139); grants the Authority Having Jurisdiction the authority to establish requirements for oil storage tanks which have been removed from service/out of service.

The following local government in the Capital Region have enacted local bylaws (please see following pages for details):

- City of Victoria
- District of Central Saanich
- District of Oak Bay
- Municipality of Saanich

NOTE: Tanks located on property under Federal or First Nations jurisdiction are regulated by the Federal ["Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations"](#)

Local Governments with bylaws that have additional requirements for out of service oil tanks

- ➔ If the service company or the inspector suspects possible site contamination, the owner is advised to contact a certified environmental engineer to provide fire department with a report that indicates that the remediation has been successfully completed.

Local Government	Local Government Bylaws	Additional Requirements for Out of Service Tanks (underground & aboveground)	Permit Requirements
City of Victoria Contact: Fire Department	BYLAW NO. 07-049 Fuel Equipment & Storage Bylaw http://www.victoria.ca/assets/City-Hall/Bylaws/bylaw-07-049.pdf	<p>Removal required.</p> <p>Contractor must provide evidence to the Fire Chief that the contractor is competent to satisfactorily complete that work in compliance with the Fire Code.</p> <p>After being withdrawn from service permanently or for a period of longer than 2 years, a fuel tank must be removed from its location, whether underground or above ground.</p> <p>At the discretion of the Fire Chief, an underground tank may be left in place, but must be cut open, wiped out, and filled with a clean, inert material acceptable to the Fire Chief.</p>	<p>Permit must be obtained & final sign off is required by Fire Department.</p> <p>What is required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Engineer report submission/ where contamination is suspected, company that conducted removal is to be present for removal inspection. 2. Oil tank removal permit is issued at time of application by company contracted to perform the work and signed off for the homeowners copy and fire department copy once inspected.

Capital Region Local Government Bylaws & Reporting Requirements Regarding Out of Service Home and Business Heating Oil Tanks (May 2017)

<p>District of Central Saanich</p> <p>Contact: Fire Department</p>	<p>BYLAW NO. 99 Oil Burning Equipment, Flammable Liquid & Combustible Liquid Fuel Tank.</p>	<p>Removal required.</p> <p>Where removal affects the structural integrity of the foundation/structure, an application in writing to the Fire Chief to inert in place is made. Fire Chief may require a person to provide a report prepared by a registered professional.</p>	<p>Permit must be obtained & final sign off is required by Fire Department.</p> <p>What is required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Engineer report submission/ where contamination is suspected, company that conducted removal is to be present for removal inspection. 2. Oil tank removal permit is issued at time of application by company contracted to perform the work and signed off for the homeowners copy and fire department copy once inspected.
<p>Municipality of Saanich</p> <p>Contact: Fire Department</p>	<p>BYLAW NO. 9265 Oil Burning Equipment, Flammable Liquid & Combustible Liquid Fuel Tank Bylaw http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/local-government/bylaws.html</p>	<p>Removal required.</p> <p>Where removal affects the structural integrity of the foundation/structure, an application in writing to the Fire Chief to inert in place is made. Fire Chief may require a person to provide a report prepared by a registered professional.</p>	<p>Permit must be obtained & final sign off is required by Fire Department.</p> <p>What is required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Engineer report submission/ where no contamination suspected, company that conducted removal is to be present for removal inspection. 2. Oil tank removal permit is issued at time of application by company contracted to perform the work and signed off for the homeowners copy and fire department copy once inspected.
<p>District of Oak Bay</p> <p>Contact: Fire Department</p>	<p>BYLAW NO. 4144 A Bylaw to regulate the installation of oil burning equipment and flammable liquid & combustible liquid fuel tanks Oak Bay Guidelines for Underground Oil Storage Tanks (UST) - Private Dwellings</p>	<p>Removal or rendered inert is required, however removal is strongly recommended.</p> <p>Requires that all underground oil tanks being inert or removed must be inspected and documented.</p> <p>No person shall withdraw from service any fuel tank unless the removal is carried out strictly in accordance with the applicable provisions of the B.C. Fire Code.</p>	<p>Permit must be obtained & final sign off is required by Fire Department.</p> <p>Fire Department Fee for Service</p> <p>What is required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qualified tradesperson/company will contact the Oak Bay Fire Department for a site inspection. The Oak Bay Fire Department will evaluate the tank and site.