

OPERATIONAL PERMIT STORAGE, USE, AND DISPENSING OF LPG

For Office Use Only



**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
5 COUNTY COMPLEX CT. SUITE 160
PRINCE WILLIAM, VA 22192
(703) 792-6360 office (703) 792-6492 fax
WWW.PWCGOV.ORG/FIRE**

Permit Number:
Date Issued:
Expiration Date:

- New Permit** **Renewal**

I. Instructional Section

1. **LPG Tanks used for Temporary Heat 500lbs or greater to include smaller combined tanks will require additional permits from the building department to include Storage Tank Permit (UGS), Gas Permit (GAS), and an Electrical Permit (ELE). See additional guideline documents at end of permit.**
2. Please review this application thoroughly, fill out all requested information and submit with all necessary attachments to the Prince William County Fire Marshal's Office at the above address or PWCFMOFOP@pwcgov.org.
3. A permit fee of \$346.77 is required at the time of application submittal. Checks can be made out to "Prince William County". Credit card payments are accepted over the phone.
4. Prince William County Operational Permits for LPG are good for 12 months from the date of issuance.
5. A review of this application packet will be conducted and either approved or rejected based on the information provided.
6. An on-site inspection will be made at the time of permit delivery. It will verify that that the installation meets all code requirements and site plan dimensions are accurate and the installation is complete.
7. Please ensure site contact information is correct. If an applicant needs permit copies, they should be obtained directly from the site contact after the permit is delivered.

II. Informational Section

Company Information

Name of Company:	
Address of Company:	
Company Phone:	Emergency Contact Phone Number:
Emergency Contact Name:	Applicant Email:

Site Information

Site Name:	
Site Address:	
Name of Owner/Manager:	Phone:
Emergency Contact Name, Number, and Email (after hours):	Phone:

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III. List of Required Documents and Items

- ✓ Site plan showing location, size, and dimensions of tank installation including impact protection, if required.
- ✓ Location of means of egress including doorways and openings into buildings.
- ✓ Completed Operational Permit Application including permit fee.

Carefully review the following:

LPG installations in Prince William County are regulated by the following sources:

- Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code Chapter 61 (*2021 edition*)
- NFPA 58 (*2020 edition*)

Applicable Code Sections:

- *VSFPC 107.2* Operational permits may be required by the fire official as permitted under the SFPC in accordance with Table 107.2.
- *VSFPC 107.4* Before a permit is issued, the fire official shall make such inspections or tests as are necessary to assure that the use and activities for which application is made comply with the provisions of this code.
- *VSFPC 107.7* Plans approved by the Fire Official are approved with the intent that they comply in all respects to this code. Any omissions or errors on the plans do not relieve the applicant of complying with all applicable requirements of this code.
- *VSFPC 108.4* the Fire Official may revoke a permit or approval issued under the SFPC if conditions of the permit have been violated, or if the approved application, data or plans contain misrepresentation as to material fact.
- *VSFPC 6101.1* Storage, handling, and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas (LP-gas) and the installation of LP-gas equipment pertinent to systems for such uses shall comply with this chapter and NFPA 58. Properties of LP-gas shall be determined in accordance with Appendix B of NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6101.2* Permits shall be required as set forth in Section 107.2 of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC). Distributors shall not fill an LP-Gas container for which a permit is required unless an operational permit has been issued for that location by the fire code official, except when the container is for temporary use on construction sites.
- *VSFPC 6103.2.1.2* Construction and temporary heating using portable LP-gas containers are allowed to be used in buildings or areas of buildings undergoing construction or for temporary heating as set forth in Sections 6.22.4, 6.22.5 and 6.22.8 of NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6103.2.1.5* Portable LP-gas containers are allowed to be use temporarily for demonstrations and public exhibitions. Such containers shall not exceed a water capacity of 12 pounds (5kg). Where more than one such container is present in the same room, each container shall be separated from other containers by a distance of not less than 20 feet.
- *VSFPC 6103.2.1.6* Portable LP-gas containers are allowed to be used to supply *approved* self-contained torch assemblies or similar appliances. Such containers shall not exceed a water capacity of 2.7 pounds (1kg).
- *VSFPC 6103.2.2* Industrial vehicles and floor maintenance machines that use LP-gas containers shall comply with Sections 11.11 and 11.12 of NFPA 58.

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- *VSFPC 6105.2* LP-gas shall not be released to the atmosphere, except in accordance with Section 7.3 of NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6106.1* Dispensing of LP-gas shall be performed by a qualified attendant.
- *VSFPC 6107.2* “No Smoking” signs complying with Section 310 shall be posted when required by the fire code official. Smoking within 25 feet of a point of transfer, while filling operations are in progress at LP-gas containers or vehicles, shall be prohibited. Control of other sources of ignition shall comply with Chapter 3 of this code and Section 6.25 of NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6107.3* Weeds, grass, brush, trash, and other combustible materials shall be kept a minimum of 10 feet from LP-gas tanks or containers.
- *VSFPC 6107.4* Where exposed to vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, LP-gas containers, regulators, and piping shall be protected in accordance with NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6108.2* Portable fire extinguishers complying with Section 906 shall be provided as specified in NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6109.1* Storage of portable LP-gas containers of 1000 pounds or less, whether filled partially filled or empty, at consumer sites or distribution points, and for resale by dealers or resellers shall comply with Sections 6109.2 through 6109.15.1. The exceptions to this would be LP-gas containers that have not been previously filled, LP-gas containers at distribution sites, and LP-gas containers at consumer sites or distribution points, which are connected for use.
- *VSFPC 6109.2* LP-gas containers in storage shall be located in a manner that minimizes exposure to excessive temperature rise, physical damage, and tampering.
- *VSFPC 6109.4* LP-gas containers stored in buildings in accordance with Sections 6109.9 and 6109.11 shall not be located near exit access doors, exits, stairways or in areas normally used, or intended to be used, as a means of egress.
- *VSFPC 6109.5* Empty LP-gas containers that have been in LP-gas service shall be considered as full containers for the purpose of determining the maximum quantities of LP-gas allowed in Sections 6109.9 and 6109.11.
- *VSFPC 6109.9* Storage of LP-gas containers within building accessible to the public are limited to cylinders having a maximum water capacity of 2.7 pounds if used in completely self-contained hand torches and similar applications are allowed to be stored or displayed inside a building accessible to the public. They shall not exceed 200 pounds except as provided in Section 6109.11.
- *VSFPC 6109.10* Storage within buildings not accessible to the public, such as industrial buildings, shall not exceed a water capacity of 735 pounds. Where additional storage is required on the same floor in the same building, they shall be separated by a minimum of 300 feet storage beyond these limits shall comply with Section 6109.11.
- *VSFPC 6109.10.1* LP-gas containers carried as part of service equipment on highway mobile vehicles need not be considered in the total storage capacity in Section 6109.10, provided such vehicles are stored in private garages and do not carry more than three LP-gas containers with a total capacity not exceeding 100 pounds per vehicle. The gas valves shall be closed.
- *VSFPC 6109.12* Storage of LP-gas outside of buildings awaiting use, resale or part of a cylinder exchange program shall be in accordance with Table 6109.12.
- *VSFPC 6109.13* LP-gas containers shall be stored within a suitable enclosure or otherwise protected against tampering. Vehicular protection shall be provided as required by Section 6107.4. Exception: impact protection shall not be required for protection of LP-gas containers where the containers are kept in a lockable, ventilated cabinet of metal construction.
- *VSFPC 6109.14* Where the provisions of Section 6109.12 and 6109.13 are impractical at construction sites, or at buildings or structures undergoing major renovations or repairs, the storage of containers shall be as required by the fire code official.

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- *VSFPC 6109.15* In addition to other applicable requirements of this chapter, facilities operating LP-gas cylinders exchange for resale that are accessible to the public shall comply with the following requirements. They shall be secured in a lockable, ventilated metal cabinet or other approved enclosure. They must be accessible by only authorized personnel or by use of an automated exchange system in accordance with Section 6109.15.1. A sign shall be posted on the building stating “**DO NOT BRING LP-GAS CYLINDERS INTO THE BUILDING**” or similar wording. An emergency contact information sign shall be posted within 10 feet of the cylinder storage cabinet. The specifics and location of the sign shall be up to the fire code official.
- *VSFPC 6109.15.1* Cylinders exchange stations that include an automated vending system for exchanging cylinders shall comply with the following requirements. The system shall only permit access to a single cylinder per transaction. The cylinders can only be placed inside in an upright position. The devices that operate the doors shall be permitted to be pneumatic, mechanical, or electrical. Electrical equipment inside or within 5 feet of the cabinet shall comply with the requirements for Class 1, Division 2 equipment per NFPA 70. A manual override control shall be permitted for use by authorized personnel. The vending system shall not be capable of returning to automatic operation until the system has been inspected and reset by authorized personnel. Inspections shall be conducted by authorized personnel to ensure that all cylinders are secured, access doors are closed and the station has no visible signs of damage or obvious defects.
- *VSFPC 6110.1* LP-gas containers whose use has been temporarily discontinued shall comply with all of the following. It shall be disconnected from the appliance piping. LP-gas container outlets closed or plugged. The relief valve positioned in direct communication with the container vapor space.
- *VSFPC 6110.2* LP-gas containers discontinued from service shall be removed from the site.
- *VSFPC 6111.1* Parking of LP-gas tank vehicles shall comply with Sections 6111.2 and 6111.3. In cases of accident, breakdown or other emergencies, LP-gas tank vehicles are allowed to be parked and left unattended at any location while the operator is obtaining assistance.
- *VSFPC 6111.2* The unattended parking of LP-gas tank vehicles shall be in accordance with Sections 6111.2.1 and 6111.2.2. The exception is outdoor parking of LP gas tank vehicles may also be in accordance with Section 9.7.2 of NFPA 58.
- *VSFPC 6111.2.1* LP-gas tank vehicles shall not be left unattended at any time on residential streets or within 500’ of a residential area, apartment, hotel complex, educational facility, hospital, or care facility. Tank vehicles shall not be left unattended at any other place that would, in the opinion of the fire code official, pose an extreme life hazard.
- *VSFPC 6111.2.2* LP-gas tank vehicles parked at any one point for longer than 1 hour shall be located off public streets, highways, public avenues, or public alleys. Inside of a bulk plant. At other approved locations not less than 50’ from buildings other than those approved for the storage or servicing of such vehicles.

***This list only references a few of the applicable fire safety code sections. It is not all-inclusive. Other code sections may apply.**

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**TABLE 6109.12
SEPARATION FROM EXPOSURES OF LP-GAS CONTAINERS AWAITING USE,
RESALE OR EXCHANGE STORED OUTSIDE OF BUILDINGS**

QUANTITY OF LP-GAS STORED (pounds)	MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCE FROM STORED LP-GAS CYLINDERS TO (feet):						
	Nearest important building or group of buildings or line of adjoining property that may be built upon	Line of adjoining property occupied by schools, places of religious worship, hospitals, athletic fields or other points of public gathering; busy thoroughfares; or sidewalks	LP-gas dispensing station	Doorway or opening to a building with two or more means of egress	Doorway or opening to a building with one means of egress	Combustible materials	Motor vehicle fuel dispenser
720 or less	0	0	5	5	10	10	20
721 - 2,500	0	10	10	5	10	10	20
2,501 - 6,000	10	10	10	10	10	10	20
6,001 - 10,000	20	20	20	20	20	10	20
Over 10,000	25	25	25	25	25	10	20

Applicant Signature:	Date:
FMO Reviewer:	Date:

Temporary Gas Heaters and LP Tanks During Construction Guidelines

This Guideline is for Temporary Gas Heaters used during construction with LP Tanks with an aggregate capacity of 500 Gallons or more.

Temporary Gas Heaters with LP Tanks are very efficient in providing temporary heat on job sites. This guideline provides general requirements for the safe installation of heaters during the winter season. For additional information, please contact the Fire Marshal's Office at (703) 792-6360 or the Construction Inspection Office at (703) 792-7006.

The Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (VSFPC), Chapter 33, Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition, and Chapter 61, Liquefied Petroleum Gases, require a Fire Operational Permit for liquefied petroleum installations. For installation of temporary gas heating systems with LP Tanks with an aggregate capacity of 500 Gallons or more, the Fire Operational Permit also includes the issuance and approval of a Storage Tank Permit (UGS), Gas Permit (GAS), and Electrical Permit (ELE) by the Building Development Division.

1. Permits Required- A Fire Operational Permit (FOP) shall require the following additional permits:

- Storage Tank Permit (UGS) - Propane Tanks
- Gas Permit (GAS) - Gas Heaters and Piping
- Electrical Permit (If required)

2. General Guidelines (Not all Inclusive)

- Temporary devices shall be listed and labeled in accordance with the Codes. Installation, maintenance, and use shall be according to the terms of the listing.
- LP Tanks (i.e., cylinders) shall be secured.
- The gas piping, including valves and fittings, shall be adequately protected to prevent tampering, impact damage, and damage from vibration.
- Refueling of liquid fuel shall be conducted when the unit is cooled.
- Clearance from combustibles shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations noted on the equipment label. Always maintain a minimum distance of at least three feet from any combustible materials and observe an overhead clearance of at least six feet to prevent fires.
- When in operation, temporary heating equipment shall be fixed in place and protected from damage, dislodgement, or overturning, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- These temporary heating devices shall be **supervised and maintained by competent personnel.**
- LP Tanks shall be stored within a suitable enclosure or otherwise protected against tampering. Vehicle impact protection shall be provided as required.

If the use of the temporary heaters is found unattended by Fire Department personnel or the Fire Marshal's Office, the temporary heaters will be immediately turned off and operations suspended until the above requirements are met. Using the temporary heaters in any manner that is not consistent with the above-mentioned requirements will result the issuance of a **Notice of Violation** to the appropriate contractor or subcontractor. If additional violations occur, it may result in the issuance of a Summons. Each offense of the VSFPC is a Class 1 misdemeanor and could result in a \$2500 fine and or up to 12 months in jail.

Links to permits:

[Storage Tank Permit](#)

[Gas Permit](#)

[Electrical Permit \(If Required\)](#)