



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. TURCO, III
SECRETARY

P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121

www.mass.gov/dfs

PETER J. OSTROSKY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

May 14th, 2019

Re: Declaration of Approved Standard for Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST)

AST owner/operator:

In accordance with *Massachusetts General Law (MGL) chapter 148, section 37*, no person shall construct, maintain or use any aboveground storage tank of more than 10,000-gallons gross capacity for the storage of any fluid (gas or liquid) other than water without having a permit from the Massachusetts State Fire Marshal.

In 2014, *MGL c. 148 s. 37* was changed by replacing the mandatory annual inspections with an inspection frequency as established by the Marshal in *502 CMR 5.00 – Permit and Inspection Requirements of ASTs of More Than 10,000-gallons Capacity*. Beginning in 2016, the annual AST inspection was changed to every 5 years contingent on the tank was being serviced in accordance with its inspection and maintenance standard (Approved Standard).

Beginning in November 2020, the State Fire Marshal's Office will start sending out AST Use Permit renewal reminder notices to AST owners/operators approximately 45 days prior to the Use Permit's expiration date. In order to renew the Use Permit, an AST Inspection and Renewal Form will need to be submitted with the associated fee. The AST Inspection and Renewal Form will contain sections where your Qualified Tank Inspector will need to:

1. Review the inspection and maintenance documentation since the issuance of the last Use Permit, and confirm that the AST has been inspected and maintained in accordance with the Approved Standard; and
2. Confirm that an inspection has been conducted on the tank (external inspection), related equipment, secondary containment, and the premises, confirming that all items are in good working condition and in compliance with all applicable codes.

In order to process the renewal, the Approved Standard needs to be first declared to this Office. An AST Approved Standard Declaration Form has been attached and is required to be completed for each AST and returned to this Office by August 30th 2019. The Form will be need to be completed by the Qualified Tank Inspector to ensure that the declared Approved Standard is appropriate for the AST.

Electronic versions of the Approved Standard Declaration Form can be found along with *MGL c. 148 s. 37, 502 CMR 5.00*, and other AST related information can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/aboveground-storage-tanks-asts>

Any questions regarding this letter, should be forwarded to the Office's support desk at 978-567-3375.

Sincerely,

Paul Vigneau, Director
Massachusetts State Fire Marshal's Office

Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy