



Community and Economic Development
Fire Prevention Division

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Deputy Director

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WATER TANK STANDARDS

For

Commercial, Industrial, & Multi-Residential Occupancies

All water tanks, lines and hydrants shall be approved prior to installation.

LOCATION:

1. Not less than 50 feet or more than 150 feet from any building unless approved fire hydrant(s) are provided as specified below.
2. Not more than 8 feet from an all-weather driving surface readily accessible to fire apparatus.
3. Tanks and hydrant locations are to be approved by the Madera County Fire Department prior to installation.
4. Tanks 5000 gallons and over REQUIRE a building permit.

CONSTRUCTION:

1. Tank shall be constructed of material approved by the Madera County Fire Department.
2. Tanks less than 5,000 gallon capacity require no greater than 2 to 1 height to width ratio.
3. Tanks of 5,000 gallons or greater capacity require review and approval by the Madera County Building Department and the Madera County Fire Department.
4. Interconnected tanks shall be connected with a 6" (inch) line or larger. 4" (inch) lines are not accepted.

ACCESSORIES:

1. Flanged outlet and discharge valve:
 - a. 2 1/2" flange with 2 1/2" full-flow valve.
 - b. 4 1/2" flange with 4 1/2" full-flow valve.
 - c. All outlets shall have male NH threads with cap.
2. Hydrant(s)

All hydrants shall be fed by a minimum 6" inch line from the water tanks.
All water tanks shall be interconnected by a minimum 6" (inch) line.

 - a. Shall be located not less than 50 feet and not more than 150 feet from any building point.
 - b. Shall be located not more than 8 feet from an all weather driving surface accessible to fire apparatus.
 - c. Discharge connections shall be not less than 24 inches and not more than 48 inches above grade level. All tank water shall drain to hydrant(s).
 - d. Hydrant location(s) are subject to approval by Madera County Fire Department.
 - e. Approved crash protection is required if exposed to vehicular traffic, as specified below.
 1. 4-inch concrete filled steel or iron pipe set not less than 36 inches below grade in concrete and extending not less than 36 inches above grade and not more than 48 inches apart. Shall be not less than 3 feet from hydrant.
3. An Automatic Refill is required.
5. 24-inch roof hatch

(over)

6. Covered roof vent
 - a. Not less than 10 square inches (4-inch diameter) covered with 3/8-inch rust-resistant screen.
 - b. May be incorporated into the roof hatch design.

6. When calculation water storage volume for multi-family storage, add the domestic (1200 gallons per residence) for each residence to the minimum 2500 gallons for the total tank size. For example, 3 homes ($3 \times 1200 = 3600$ gallons + 2500 for fire fighting purposes = a 6,100 gallon minimum size tank.)

Please contact Office of the RMA Madera County Fire Marshal at (559) 661-6333 if you have any questions or require additional information.