

Propane Tanks & Other Cylinders

Approximately 3000 propane fires and explosions are reported yearly. “*Propane gas dangers and strategies for prevention of injuries.*” www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov. The Transfer Station does not collect propane tanks because they are pressurized and may explode when compressed. The 2022 HW Material Flow Project collected samples demonstrate the presence of aerosols and propane tanks which poses a combustible hazard. One time we found polyurethane foam tanks which are not only combustible but also very toxic and cancerous.

Alternative to regular propane tanks?

Avoid unnecessary consumption in the first place. If you already have a propane tank. The cylinders should be stored 10 feet away from your home in a well-ventilated area and away from possible fire or corrosion. Eliminate any possible contamination and health risks by using alternatives such as composite propane cylinders, which are safer. Do consider using solar energy if possible. Make use of the Alternative Products List found in the SRMT Solid Waste website to use safer products instead of hazardous products. The list shows pictures and detailed information.

What to do when getting rid of propane tanks?

If the tank’s metal was recycled, 12,000 automobiles could be made each year. “*Propane Tanks*” NYS Recyclopeda, Recyclerightny.org. In order to recycle a propane tank, it

has to be serviceable and able to meet all safety standards. Don't attempt to repair or alter cylinder valves or safety devices, and keep the valve closed. Tanks should not be rusted, damaged, or dented so they can be reused.

What if the propane tank is damaged and not reusable?

Have an instructed expert depressurize the tank so it's safe to dispose. Before you dispose of your tank consider;

1. Use the gas completely, and the label has to be visible.
2. Contact and bring a tank to your propane supplier.
3. Bring an empty depressurized used tank to a scrap metal facility.
4. Bring the tank to a local Hazardous Waste Collection Day event for free.