



MONTHLY SAFETY MEETING

Date: September 2018
Subject: Transporting Fuel Containers

The only safe way to transport and store gasoline is by using only approved portable gas containers. Many local jurisdictions, counties, townships, and other government agencies may have specific rules for transporting petroleum-based products. The same agencies may have specific containers to use for this purpose. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA has specific standards for these containers.

The PTA suggest that you comply with any and all special requirements in your area for transporting or dispensing petroleum-based products which include but not limited to:

- **Gasoline**, normally found in RED containers and considered highly flammable
- **Diesel Fuel**, normally found in YELLOW containers
- **Kerosene**, normally found in BLUE containers
- **Lubricating Oils**, normally found in GREEN containers

OSHA has commercial specifications for the approved metal containers and a maximum capacity. Additionally, it is advisable to search out any special regulations in your area and adhere to those regulations.

Approved plastic gas containers are made of a special plastic that will not react with gasoline or other petroleum-based products. These containers are red in color and will have an Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) or the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) stamp on them. However, plastic containers in commercial applications may not be acceptable in your area.

To prevent problems at the pump, here are some safety guidelines to follow when filling gas containers:

- Use only approved and properly labeled gasoline containers. The gas can should be red in color and have an Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) or the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) stamp on them or OSHA/DOT approval.
- Place the container on the ground before filling to allow static buildup to dissipate. Make sure the filler nozzle touches the rim of the filler opening to help static electricity dissipate.
- Fill the container only 95 percent full. Leave an air space in the fuel container, it will expand as temperatures increase.
- Always fill the can manually; never use the trigger lock on the nozzle.
- Turn off your vehicles motor before fueling and extinguish any cigarettes or open flames.
- Never fill a container inside a vehicle or truck bed.
- Wipe the container clean before putting it in the vehicle (or hose it off).
- Secure the container in the vehicle so it won't slide around.
- Never leave a container in your vehicle for extended periods.
- Don't breathe gasoline fumes. They are extremely harmful to your health.
- Always store fuel containers in a well-ventilated area.

It is not safe to fill unapproved plastic bottles, old metal gas cans, other metal containers or glass containers with gasoline.