

Northborough Fire Department



ABOVEGROUND & UNDERGROUND LPG* (PROPANE) TANKS REQUIREMENTS

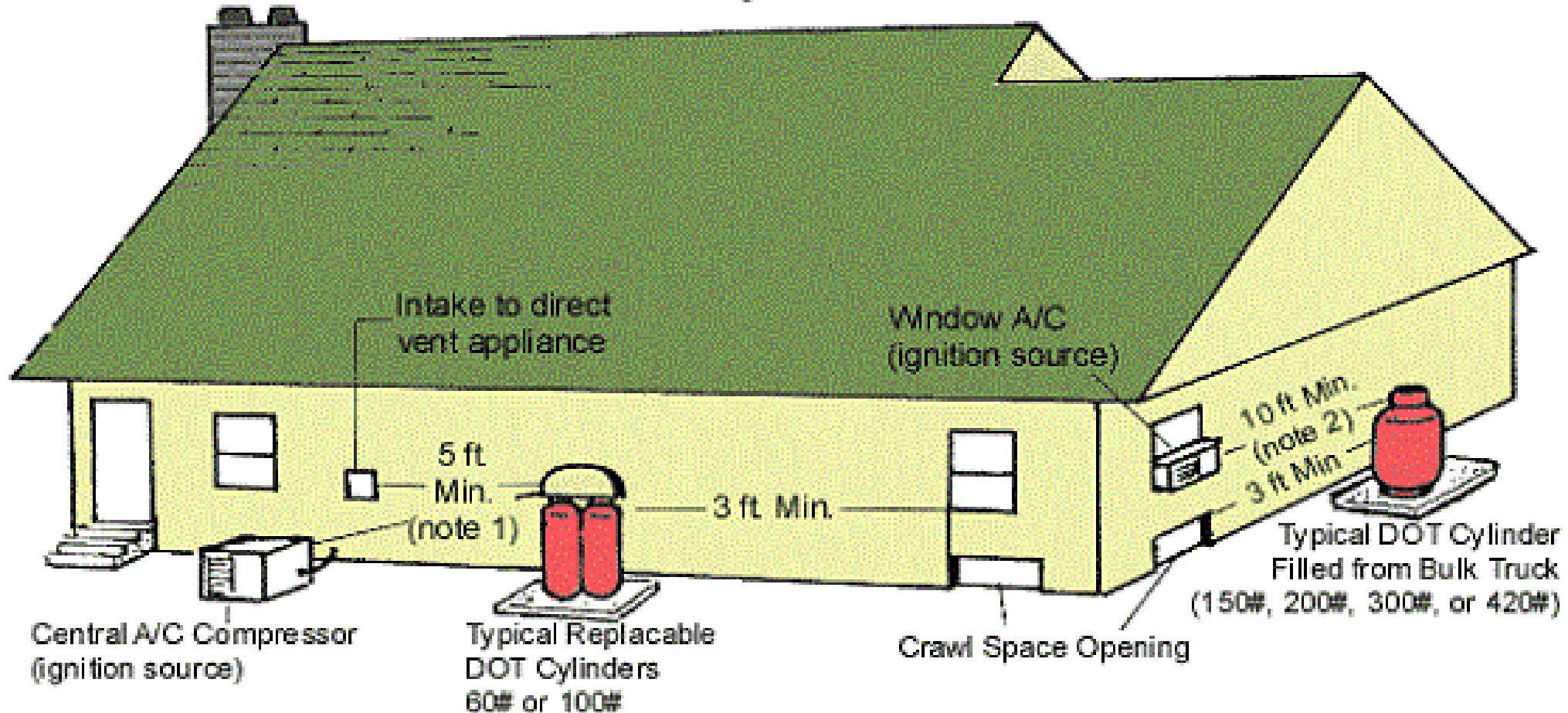
NFPA 58 & 527 CMR 6.00

LPG = Liquefied Petroleum Gas

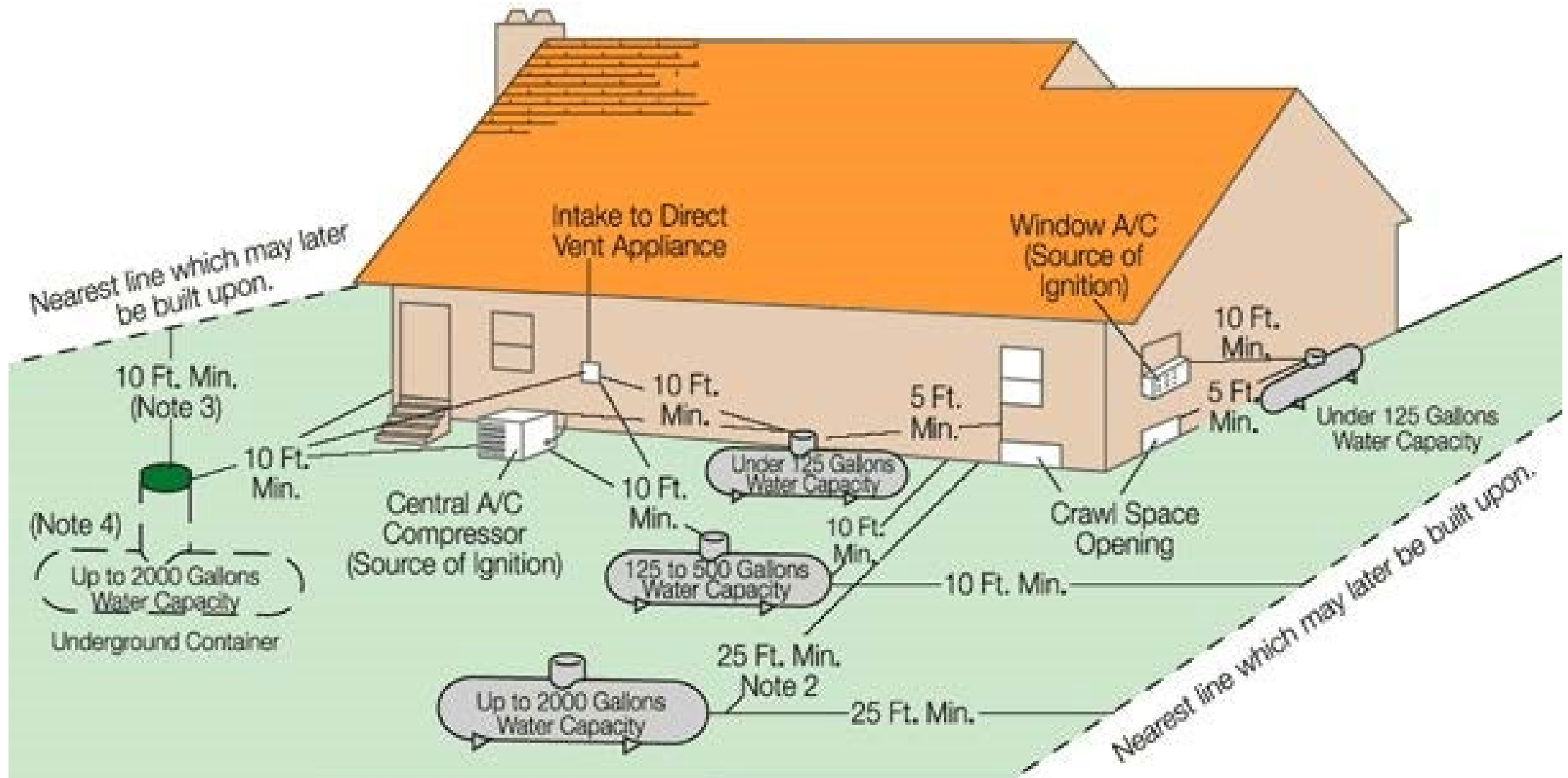
Propane Tank Placement Requirements Less Than 125 Gallons

From NFPA 58, Appendix G

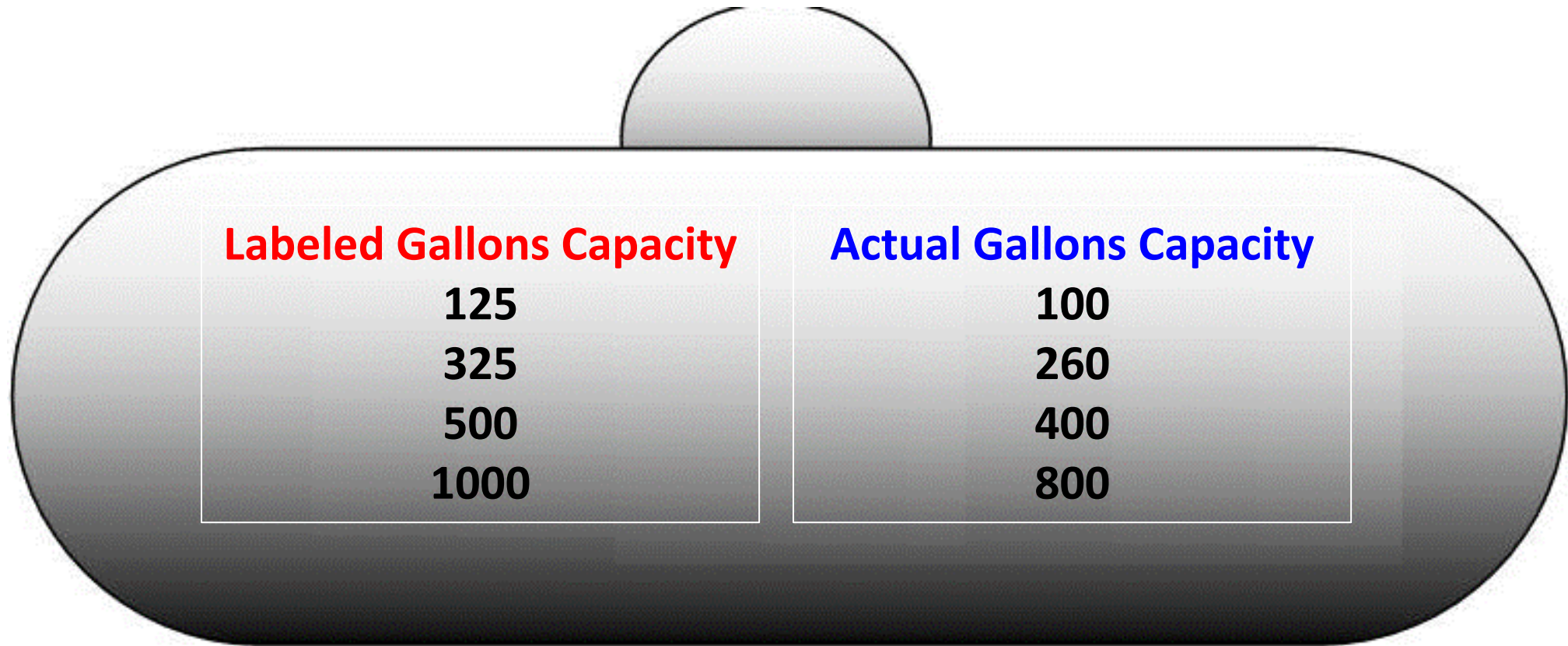
Federal, state, and local ordinances and regulations should be observed at all times.



Propane Tank Placement Requirements 125 Gallons and Above



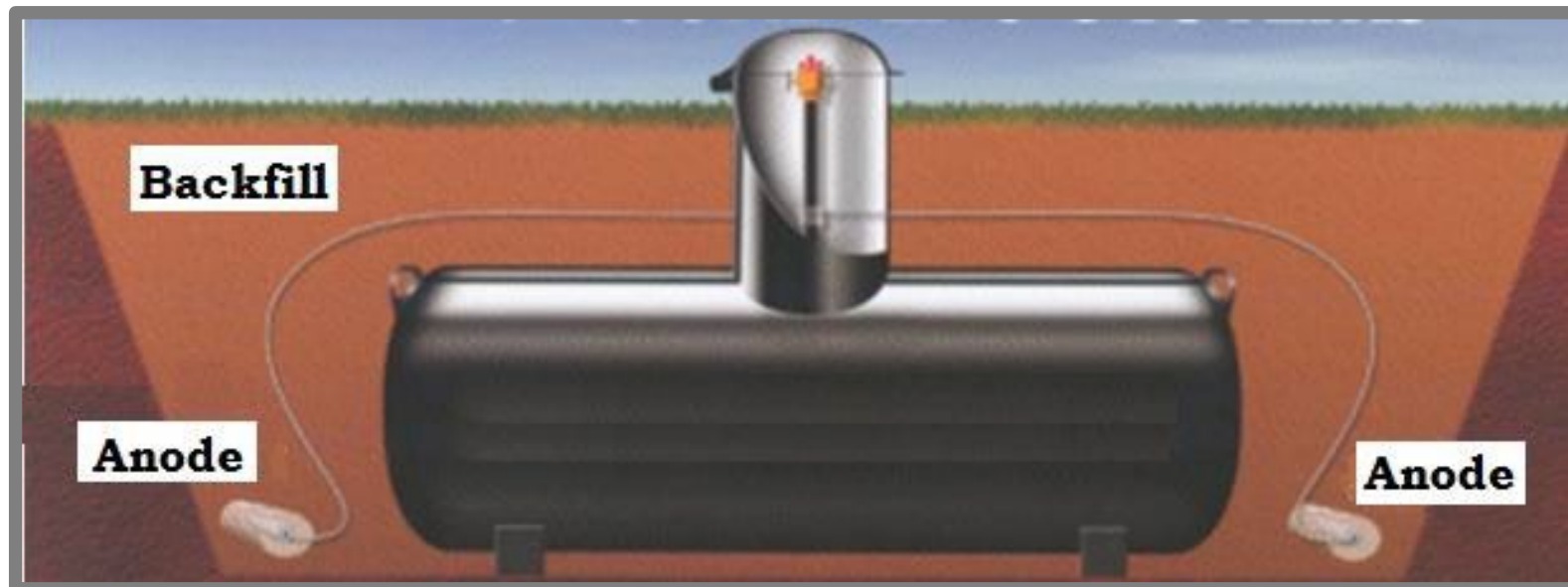
Tank Contents Capacity Labeled vs. Actual



Underground Tank Corrosion Protection

To reduce the corrosion of underground tanks, sacrificial anodes are to be installed in the ground near the tank. The anodes are connected by a copper cable to the tank. Anodes are usually a soft metal, such as magnesium or zinc. They are made as solid rods or stakes, as well as soft powder in small bags.

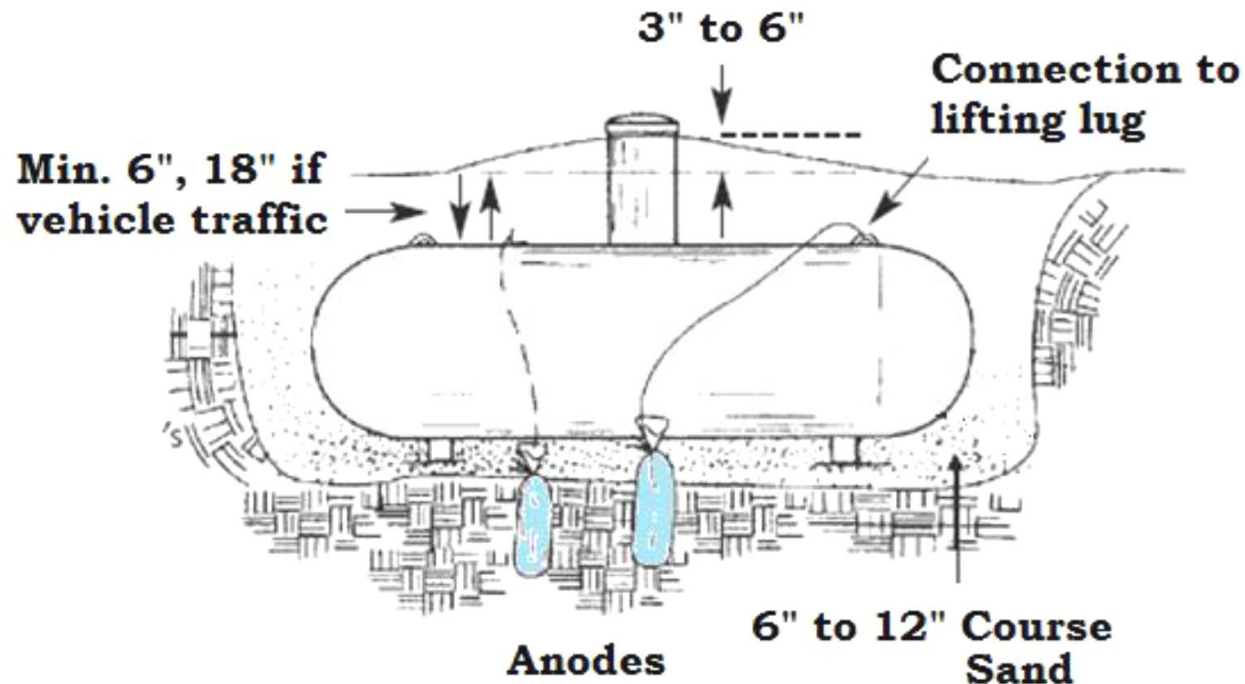
Underground tanks must be designed and coated for underground installation. They are usually factory coated. However, coatings may have been scratched off during transportation and installation. As a result, the tank must be recoated onsite before it is installed in the ground.



Underground Tank Install Requirements

The top of the tank when set in the hole must be at least six (6) inches below grade. If the tank is to be installed in an area where vehicles may travel over the top of the tank, 18" -24" of compacted earth shall be set below grade.

The hole is to be backfilled with rock free dirt or coarse sand. The tanks surface is not to be scratched. A minimum of twelve (12) inches of backfill is to be tamped down around the tank at any one time, then an additional twelve (12) inches is filled in and tamped, etc. until the hole is full.



Impact Damage Protection Above and Underground Tanks

If exposed to vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, LPG tanks, regulators and piping shall be protected by guard posts constructed of steel, not less than 4 inches in diameter, filled with concrete. Posts are to be spaced not more than 4 feet apart, set not less than 3 feet deep in a concrete footing of not less than a 15-inch diameter. The top of the posts is not to be less than 3 feet above the ground, and located not less than 3 feet from the tank. Other means of tank protection if approved may consist of landscape type boulders, cement walls. etc.

