Service Stations

Includes:

- Gas/fuel filling stations
- Automotive shops

CHECKLIST: COMMON FIRE SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

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- Absorbent material: should be available to soak up fuel spills.
- Address: must be visible from road and lane, free from foliage, trees, etc. and in a contrasting colour.
- Attendants: must be trained as per BC Fire Code 4.6.8.5. and 4.6.8.6.
- Cutting/welding equipment: compressed gas bottles must be secured and have check valves. There must be no mechanical damage to gas hoses.
- Dispensing hose: check for physical/mechanical damage.
- Dispensing unit shut-off devices: must be clearly identified, remote, and shielded from fire.
- **Electrical equipment:** no extension cords permitted.
- Emergency lighting: may be provided by battery packs with remote or attached heads, or by emergency generators that will illuminate specified A/C fixtures or remote light heads. Must be operational with no visible damage. Must be tested monthly by staff, and serviced and tagged annually by a certified technician.
- Garbage disposal: commercial containers must be located three metres from combustible buildings. If inside, commercial containers should have tight-fitting lids and be in fire-separated rooms.
- Heating units: check condition of units. No portable heaters permitted.
- 'No smoking, engine off' signs: must be posted at dispensing equipment.

Mechanical rooms (such as boiler, furnace, or electrical rooms): must provide clear access to equipment, and, in the case of boiler rooms and electrical vaults, must contain no storage. Panels require 1 metre of clearance.

Portable fire extinguishers: must:

- be installed as per the BC Fire Code
- be mounted in a visible location, accessible, and serviced and tagged at least annually by a certified technician.
- be full and functioning (no leaks, damage, corrosion, malfunctioning parts and clogged nozzles).
- have a minimum rating of 10B:C.
- in the case of fuel dispensing stations, have two extinguishers with a minimum size of 40-B:C
- Propane cylinders: cylinders inside must be connected to appliance/equipment and all cylinders (full or empty) must be stored outside in a secure location.
- Propane fueling: no combustibles may be stored near tanks.
- Soiled rags: must be disposed of in an approved metal container with a tight-fitting lid.
- Tire storage: when outdoors, must generally be kept 15 metres from buildings, unless the pile is 5 m² or less.
- Wash tanks: it is recommended that wash tanks be an approved type with fusible link and metal lid.
- Waste oil storage: maximum storage permitted in an above-ground storage tank is 5,000 litres.

The above requirements are where fire inspectors find most contraventions. This is not an exhaustive list.

Dawson Creek Fire Department

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