

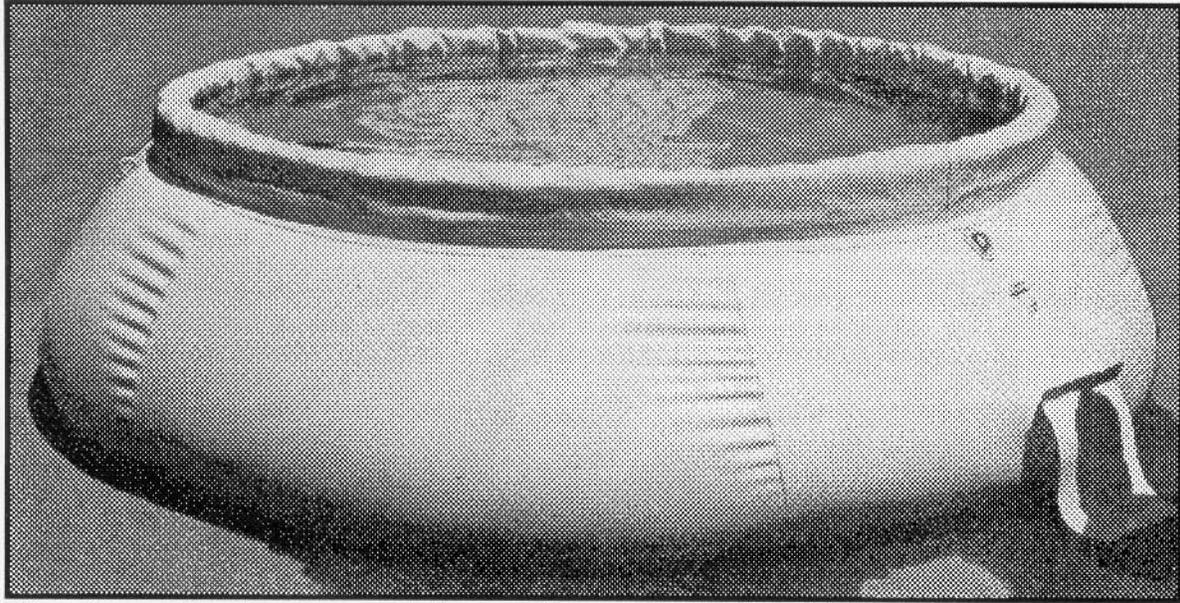
Portable Tanks

Portable water tanks are highly beneficial to water supply operations and may serve many functions. Commercially available tanks generally range in size up to 3,000 gallons and locally built tanks have been constructed up to 6,000 gallons.

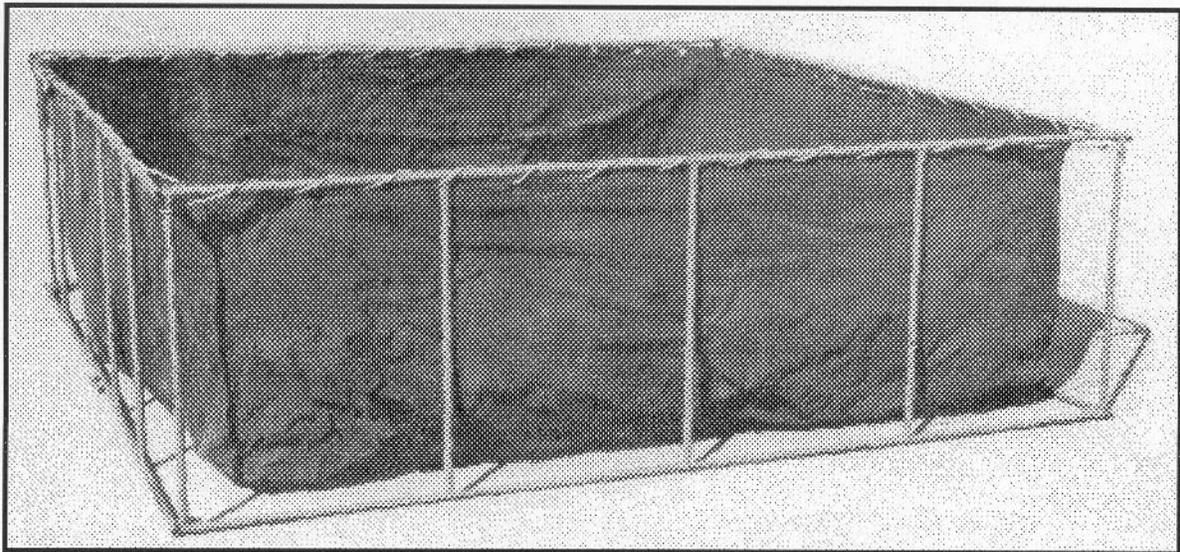
There are several types of portable tanks. The most common is the collapsible or folding style using a rectangular metal frame and canvas duck or synthetic liner. This unit can be carried by two firefighters and set up in a matter of seconds, preferably on a flat level area with no sharp objects under the tank that could puncture the liner. These tanks can be carried in hose bed compartments, hinged racks above the hose bed, enclosed compartments, or racks on the side of engines or water tenders.

Another style is a round synthetic tank with a floating collar that rises as the tank is filled, making it self-supporting. This device weighs 35 pounds and merely requires unrolling. It can be set on uneven ground, as inlet-outlet connections are arranged in the bottom of the tank. This unit folds to approximately duffle bag size and can be carried pre-connected. A third unit is supported by four metal corner supports. This tank folds to a size similar to a hard suction hose and can be carried in a compartment. This unit tends to collapse when a hard suction hose is placed over the unsupported wall of the tank.

The main function of portable water tanks is to serve as a reservoir for engines and to provide an unloading point for water tenders. Tanks should be located to allow several water tenders access at one time and to ease traffic congestion at the unloading site.



Floating collar tanks erect themselves as water is added to them.



Many departments have built their own folding tanks.

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