



# County of Bucks

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION / WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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County Commissioners

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*Director/Chief Sealer*

### **MEMO: VEHICLE TANK METER TESTING AND REPAIRS**

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Beginning January 2001 all weights and measures devices in commercial use in Bucks County must be registered with the Bucks County Department of Weights and Measures. Each device requires a certain annual fee to be paid. Invoices will be sent to businesses in the early part of each year. The registration fee for Vehicle Tank Meters is \$50.00 per meter on domestic fuel trucks.

**Extracts** from Title 3 and Title 70 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes; Act 1996-155; Subchapter E Domestic Fuel Oil; and the National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44, 2000 Edition.

- 1. INDICATING AND RECORDING ELEMENTS:** Primary indications and recorded representations shall be clear, definite, accurate, and easily read under any conditions of normal operations.
- 2. PRINTED TICKET:** A meter-ticket-printed delivery shall be used for all sales. A copy of the ticket issued by the device shall be left with the customer at the time of delivery or with invoice. Printed delivery tickets must include:
  - a) The vendor's name and address.
  - b) The date and time of delivery.
  - c) The purchaser's name and address.
  - d) Product identification.
  - e) The driver's signature or employee number.
  - f) The delivery vehicle's permanently assigned company truck number.
  - g) The price per gallon.
  - h) The volume, in terms of gallons, to the nearest one-tenth of a gallon.
  - i) A printed non-repetitive serial number.
  - j) The statement "volume delivered adjusted to 60 degrees F" if automatic temperature compensation is used.
- 3. RETURN OF INDICATING AND RECORDING ELEMENTS TO ZERO;** The primary indicating elements (visual) and the primary recording elements, when these are returnable to zero, shall be returned to zero immediately before each delivery is begun and after the pump has been activated and the product to be measured has been supplied to the measuring system.
- 4. PROVISION FOR SEALING:** Adequate provision shall be made for applying security seals in such a manner that no adjustment may be made of any measurement element, and any adjustable element for controlling delivery rate when such rate tends to affect the accuracy of deliveries.
- 5. SECURITY SEALS:** A lead and wire security seal shall be installed on any adjustment mechanism designed to be sealed.

6. **MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT:** All equipment in service and attached mechanisms and devices shall continuously be maintained in proper operating condition throughout the period of service. Equipment in service found to be predominantly in a direction favorable to the device user and near the tolerance limits shall not be considered “maintained in a proper operating condition”.
7. **REPAIRS AND INSTALLATION NOTIFICATION IS THE REPAIR PERSON OR INSTALLER’S RESPONSIBILITY:** The Weights and Measures Office must be notified within 48 hours of installation of new equipment or repairs to existing equipment. After notification, the owner(s) may use the device for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) days while waiting for Weights and Measures inspection of device.
8. **NORMAL TEST:** The “normal” test of a measuring system shall be made at the maximum discharge rate that may be anticipated under the conditions of the installation.
9. **SPECIAL TESTS:** Any test, except as set forth in item 8 above, shall be considered a special test. Special test of a measuring system shall be made at a minimum discharge rate of 20 percent of the marked maximum discharge rate or at the minimum discharge rate marked on the device whichever is less.
10. **ACCEPTANCE TOLERANCES:** Acceptance tolerances shall apply to:
  - a) Equipment put into commercial uses for the time.
  - b) Equipment that has been placed in commercial service within the preceding 30 days and is being officially tested for the first time.
  - c) Equipment that has been returned to commercial service after official rejection and is being officially tested for the first time within 30 days after correction.
  - d) Equipment that is being officially tested within 30 days after major reconditioning or overhaul.
11. **MAINTENANCE TOLERANCES:** These tolerances apply to equipment in actual use, except as provided in item 9 above.

**12. TOLERANCE TABLE FOR 200 GALLON TEST DRAFT:**

**Normal Test**

Maintenance Tolerance:	139.0 cubic inches
Acceptance Tolerance	69.0 cubic inches

**Special Test**

Maintenance and Acceptance Tolerance:	208.0 cubic inches
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13. **USE OF ADJUSTMENTS:** Measuring elements that are adjustable shall be adjusted only to correct those conditions that such elements are designed to control, and shall not be adjusted to compensate for defective or abnormal installation or accessories, or for badly worn or otherwise defective parts of the assembly. Any faulty installation conditions shall be corrected, and any defective parts shall be renewed or suitably repaired, before adjustments are undertaken. Whenever equipment is adjusted, the adjustments shall be so made as to bring performance errors as close as practicable to zero value.