

When gasoline is handled and stored at the worksite, there is risk of fire or even an explosion.

- Gasoline evaporates easily, is highly flammable, and can form explosive mixtures in the air.
- Any ignition source like a spark, a cigarette, or a hot exhaust pipe, can light up gasoline vapors.

**OSHA Standard 1910.106(b)(6)** *In locations where flammable vapors may be present, precautions shall be taken to prevent ignition by eliminating or controlling sources of ignition.*

No health effects are expected from normal use of gasoline as a fuel, but excessive, chronic exposure can result in systemic health dangers.

- Avoid breathing in gasoline vapors, when possible, especially for prolonged periods of time. Use gasoline in open areas with fresh air.

To prevent fire and explosion hazards when handling and storing gasoline:

- Eliminate all sources of heat and possible ignition like sparks, open flames, hot surfaces, and static discharge. Do not use or store gasoline near welding operations.
- When filling a container with gasoline place it on the ground and keep the nozzle in contact with the container.
- Do not fill a container with gasoline while it is sitting on the bed of a truck or in the trunk of a car.
- Never leave gasoline containers in direct sunlight.
- Do not use gasoline as a solvent or a cleaner.
- Before refueling, allow gas-powered equipment to cool down. Adding fuel while equipment is hot can cause the vapors to ignite or explode.
- After refueling gas-powered equipment, move the gasoline container at least 50 feet away before powering up the machine.



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Store gasoline in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area that is out of direct sunlight. The gasoline storage area should be separate from the work area.

- When keeping more than 25 gallons on site, store the gasoline in an OSHA-approved storage cabinet that is labeled with a sign that says “Flammable – Keep Away from Open Flames”.
- Always store gasoline in approved metal or plastic containers.
- Do not store gasoline in areas used for exits, near or under stairways, or in areas with pedestrian traffic.
- No more than 60 gallons of gasoline can be stored in a cabinet and no more than 3 cabinets can be kept in one storage area.
- Report gasoline leaks or spills immediately.



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**OSHA Standard 1910.106(d)(2)(i)** *Only approved containers and portable tanks shall be used.*

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