



# Tank Division

Cleaning Guide

## Why clean your tank?

Regular cleaning ensures your tank stays in good condition and provides clean water. Inspect your tank often for:

- Debris or pests
- Algae or biofilm
- Sediment buildup

Clean at least once a year or when inspection shows poor conditions.

## 5 Steps to Clean your Tank

### Step 1: Decide When to Clean

- Irrigation tanks: Clean yearly; disinfection not required.
- Appliance/equipment tanks: Clean yearly; disinfection recommended.
- Potable water tanks: Clean and disinfect yearly or as needed.

Pro Tip: Tanks in sunlight or light-colored material need more frequent cleaning due to algae.

### Step 2: Drain the Tank

- Safely discharge water away from buildings.
- Use water for plants if possible.
- If draining petroleum products, a pump or vacuum may be needed.
- Large tanks may need staged draining to avoid damage to the surrounding environment

Questions? Please call VPC's tank specialist at (661) 257-3923 x 1026 or send an email [productexpert@vpcglobal.com](mailto:productexpert@vpcglobal.com).





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### Step 3: Clean the Interior

- With protective equipment, scrub with soapy water and a non-metal brush.
- An extendable rod may be needed for larger capacity tanks
- Use bleach or baking soda for algae.
- Rinse thoroughly (3 times recommended).

Pro Tip: Non-potable tanks are done after this step if visually clean (free of algae, silt, biofilm scum, and sediment buildup).

### Step 4: Disinfect (Potable Use)

- Add 40 mL bleach (NSF-approved liquid bleach at 5.25% active strength) per 100 gallons for disinfection.
- For shock chlorination: 1 quart bleach (at 5.25% active strength) per 250 gallons.

#### Steps:

- Fill tank
- Add bleach
- Circulate water through system
- Wait 24–48 hours
- Test water quality

### Step 5: Validate Cleanliness

- Use test strips or lab analysis to ensure desired cleanliness
- Repeat cleaning if bacteria remain
- UV treatment is an alternative to bleach.

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