Pier Installation Information

A. Layout your site based on local and NFPA 58 set-back requirements

B. Mark (on the ground) where the centerline and center point of each pier is to be located. (Generally based on the center to center measure of how the tank had been previously set or per the tank manufacturers recommendations)

C. Mark (on the ground) an excavation line 6 feet from the previously marked centerline toward the end of the tank closest to the pier.

D. Mark (on the ground) an excavation line 6 feet from the previously marked centerline toward the center on the tank.

E. Mark (on the ground) an excavation line 7 feet from the previously marked center point toward what will be the outer side of the tank.

F. Mark (on the ground) an excavation line 7 feet from the previously marked center point toward the opposite outer side of tank. You should have an excavation "box" marked on the ground that measures 14' wide (side to side width of the tank) and 12' long (end to end length of the tank). Note: make sure your centerline and center point markings extend beyond the box to be excavated. You will need those markings to square your pier in the excavated hole.

G. Excavate the area within the marked "excavation box" to a point just below your individual regions frost line.

H. Backfill excavated hole with 8" of 1 clean aggregate, level and smooth.

I. Repeat entire process with second pier adjusting the depth of the excavation to allow for any slope on the site.

J. Each pier has 2-2 lifting holes in the vertical portion of the pier. Insert a 1 ¼ x 32” steel rod into each hole. Slip the ends of four equal length chokers over the exposed ends of the rods. This will allow you to pick the piers upright and level. Note: each pier weights approximately 20,000 lbs.

K. Pick and set the first pier in the excavation so that the centerline of the pier lines up with the centerline that previously marked on the ground. Also align the center point of the pier with the center point that was marked on the ground. Make sure the pier is plumbed and level by placing a level on the radius edge of the pier. Make any adjustments by lifting the pier and raking the aggregate out.

L. Repeat the process noted in steps J & K with the second pier. A level line or transom must be used to ensure that piers are level and square to each other. Any adjustment to the level is simply done by lifting the pier back out of the hole and adding or removing aggregate. Hint: some like to have the end of the tank without the valves to be slightly higher to allow for any debris or heavy ends to flow out during normal use. Back fill holes and compact. Hint: if you’re going to put rock under the tank, now is the time.