

***Note: A boiler pressure vessel shall  
not be operated  
without a valid Certificate***

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Inspection Unit is responsible to ensure that all boilers and pressure vessels are inspected in accordance with The Maryland Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act and Regulations. This responsibility involves Inspection for proper construction, installation, maintenance, use, repair and inspection.

The Law also requires that any boiler or pressure vessel that will be installed in Maryland be built to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, and be registered with the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors. The Law requires that boilers and pressure vessels be inspected annually or biennially (every two years) depending on the type of equipment.



### **Boiler Safety Inspection**

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Learn more about Boiler safety in Maryland by logging onto:  
**[www.dllr.maryland.gov/labor/safety/boil.shtml](http://www.dllr.maryland.gov/labor/safety/boil.shtml)**

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## **Maryland Boiler Safety: Compressed Air Tanks**



*Our mission is to inspect boilers and pressure vessels in order to reduce danger to the public.*

## Pressure Vessel Overview:

An Air Receiver is probably the most common type of unfired pressure vessel.

Air receivers shall be constructed in accordance with ASME BPV Code Section VIII and are stamped with the ASME “U” or “UM” symbol.

An air tank shall comply with the Maryland Boiler Pressure Vessel Safety Act unless:

- It operates at 15 psig or less;
- It does not exceed 5 cf in volume and 250 psig;
- It has 1-1/2' in volume and 600 psig; or
- It is inside diameter of 6”.

Boilers and Pressure Vessel Installers shall notify the Chief Boiler Inspector in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to installation.

## DO NOT:

- Allow the pressure inside the tank to exceed the Maximum Allowable Working Pressure (MAWP).
- Remove, plug or alter the safety relief valve or its setting.
- Tamper with the pressure controls.
- Bump or dent the air tank.
- Install the tank on a foundation without vibration dampers.
- Allow condensate to accumulate
- Drain the tank frequently.
- Operate the air tank without a valid inspection certificate.
- Impart excessive loading on the air receiver components.
- Store flammables in the mechanical room.

All inspections shall be performed by an inspector commissioned by the National Board of Boilers and Pressure Vessel Inspectors and the Maryland Commissioner of Labor and Industry and be employed by an Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA). There are about 20 AIAs in Maryland. Please refer to [www.maryland.gov/forms/boilersaialist.pdf](http://www.maryland.gov/forms/boilersaialist.pdf). The owner shall contract with Insurer or Non-Insurer AIA. If an object is insured then the Insurer shall inspect.

## DO:

- Drain the air tank daily of moisture to prevent internal corrosion.
- Install a safety valve set at or below MAWP and sufficient relieving capacity.
- Install a pressure gauge.
- Keep your mechanical room clean.
- Look for leaks and rectify without delay.
- In case of emergency, remain calm and use the emergency devices.
- In case of fire, operate the Emergency Shutoff Switch.
- Maintain a pressure vessel operation log book.
- Keep the mechanical room ventilated.
- Have the air receiver inspected biennially (every two years), as required by state law.
- Report to the chief boiler inspector in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to installation of a pressure vessel.
- Test the safety relief valve and log.
- Inspect the air receiver daily for proper operation.
- Allow only authorized (“R” stamp holder) repair firms to make weld repairs. For a list of firms, please log onto: [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org), select tab labeled “Data Report Regulation”, select Manufacture Repair Directory.

