

UPDATED: Vintage Tractor-Drawn Tankers

01/21/14 211 W, 7 I - + 14 - 5

January 21

Updated with more photos, including some moved from the comments section.

January 17

Found for sale on eBay is this image of a 1975 Kenworth/1969 Heil tractor-drawn tanker. Same served the Winnabow Fire Department in Brunswick County, carried 5,000 gallons of water, and was equipped with a 250 GPM pump. Click to enlarge:

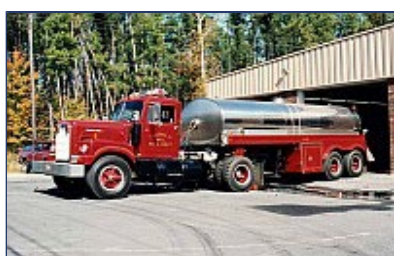


Wonder how many tractor-drawn tankers (or foam units) served in our state, back in the day? The Cary Fire Department, back as a volunteer unit, built a tractor-drawn tanker in 1954. The capacity was 4,500 gallons. This was also the truck that crashed on June 19, 1960, killing volunteer firefighter Vernon Thompson. The accident occurred while responding to a rekindled trash fire near the Camp Polk prison farm. The cab was destroyed and the truck was not replaced. Click to enlarge:



Outside of the Triangle, here are some others. Top to bottom, left to right: Bear Pond FD (Vance County/Lee Wilson photo); Idlewild FD (Mecklenburg County/Lee Wilson photo) on October 25, 1992. 1969 White, 4,000 gallons; Ogden FD (New Hanover County/Lee Wilson photo)

in 1987, 1960s? White, 6,000 gallons; Greensboro-High Point Regional Airport FD (Guilford County) in 1972-73 (see [post](#)); Selma FD (Johnston County/Jeff Harkey photo) in early 1990s (see comments in [this post](#)). Click to enlarge:



Mike know you have me wondering about how many semi-fire-tanker set ups there were in the state? The Selma Foam Tanker looks mean with those guns on top!

Tim - 01/17/14 - 09:27

I remember Ogden VFD (New Hanover) having one when I was growing up. (90's)

MCNelson - 01/17/14 - 11:10

Mike, Wade Community Fire Dept, station 16 here in Cumberland County, had a tractor drawn tanker up until the mid 2000s. If my memory serves me correct this truck was either 5000 or 6000 gallons. It was replaced by a much smaller, although big for our area, 3000 gallon tanker built by Midwest Fire.

fireman2406 - 01/17/14 - 13:14

Faison had one in the 50s-80s pulled by a International tractor not sure of the size but I believe maybe 4-5000 gallons.

car3550 - 01/17/14 - 21:06

Apex had semi-trailer tanker at one time. They didn't have a tractor to pull it with. If needed they would call LG Jordan oil company. I don't

remember it ever being used.

Jeff - 01/17/14 - 22:22

Hargetts Crossroads Vol. Fire Dept. in Jones County had one as well up into the mid 2000's. Believe it was 6,000 gallons, they would send it mutual aid with a brush truck to act as the pump for the tanker.

M. Rouse - 01/17/14 - 22:46

Scotland Neck Fire Department in Halifax County has tractor trailer tanker.

Trey ([Email](#)) - 01/19/14 - 22:27

I've also heard people talk about Hampstead VFD (Now Pender EMS & Fire) having one in the 80's

MCNelson - 01/20/14 - 10:56

I'm pretty sure, unless something has changed, that Halifax FD has one.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 01/21/14 - 10:06

Harrisburg FD in Cabarrus County also had one through the 70's-80's. I can't recall the make or model.

Josh ([Email](#)) - 01/21/14 - 20:27

The trailer from Idlewild's tanker later served Flowes Store in Cabarrus County. It was pulled by a 1980s Ford L9000 and was later sold to a local contractor or so I've heard.

BFD1151 - 01/24/14 - 19:23

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