The installation of residential heating oil tanks and other heating oil tanks under 2001 gallons is regulated by the Mechanical Subcode, Chapter 13, and the One- and Two-Family Dwelling Subcode, Chapter 22. As an aid to code officials in determining compliance with the Mechanical Subcode or the One- and Two-Family Dwelling Subcode, the following recommended details concerning corrosion protection are provided. These tanks are required to be protected by either a cathodic protection system or by corrosion-resistant materials or systems. There is no requirement for leak detection for residential heating oil tanks or other heating oil tanks under 2001 gallons.

Corrosion protection:
The Mechanical Subcode, Chapter 13 (Fuel Oil Piping and Storage), and the One- and Two-Family Dwelling Subcode, Chapter 22 (Special Piping and Storage Systems), reference the International Fire Code (IFC), Chapter 6 (Building Services and Systems) and Chapter 57 (Flammable and Combustible Liquids), for compliance. For corrosion protection, Section 5704.2.7.9 of the IFC (Corrosion protection) makes reference to NFPA 30, Section 23.3.5 (External Corrosion Protection for Underground Storage Tank). Tanks shall be protected by either (1) a properly engineered, installed and maintained cathodic protection system in accordance with recognized engineering standards of design, or (2) approved or listed corrosion-resistant materials or systems. Also, refer to NFPA 30, Annex A, Sections A.23.3.5.1 and A.23.3.5.2

Corrosion protection may consist of using a tank that is not subject to galvanic action such as a fiberglass tank, or using a protected metallic tank. Methods of protection include impressed current systems and sacrificial anodes.

It is anticipated that sacrificial anodes will be the most common method of cathodic protection. Following are some examples of providing corrosion protection using sacrificial anodes.
TANKS UP TO 1,000 GALLONS
(Corrosion Protection)

TANKS 1,001 to 2,000 GALLONS
(Corrosion Protection)

Other properly engineered designs are acceptable if they are in accordance with any of the following recognized standards:
* Steel Tank Institute Standard No. sti-P3
* Underwriters Laboratories Inc., UL 1746, Part 1
* Underwriters Laboratories of Canada, ULC S603.1 M
* American Petroleum Institute Publication 1632; and