

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



# SAFETY ALERT

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SAFETY ALERT 12-3

## Filling of Unapproved Containers with Gasoline Issued November, 2012

The Division of Fire Safety has received information that in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and the resulting gasoline shortages, individuals have been filling five-gallon buckets with gasoline. These buckets are similar to spackle buckets and are available at home improvement stores. People may be using them to transport gasoline for personal use as well as using them to transport gasoline to other parts of the state to resell the fuel for profit.

As you know, this is strictly prohibited by the NJ Uniform Fire Code and presents a great danger to the people doing this and also firefighters and other first responders that may respond to fires and spills caused by this illegal practice. Only UL listed containers designed to transport gasoline may be used by individuals and those must be filled only by service station employees.

We are requesting that Fire Officials/Inspectors visit every service station within their jurisdiction and advise the employees/manager of the station that this practice is not permitted and those stations allowing it face penalties and fines.

Additionally, those individuals that are reselling gasoline may face civil and criminal charges with regard to excise tax avoidance and potential price gouging during the declared state of emergency.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated and will help ensure the safety of our citizens during this difficult time.



Photo shows individuals loading up 5 gallon buckets for transport to an unknown location either for personal use or for resale. Only the red container on the right is approved for gasoline transport.

**PLEASE POST IMMEDIATELY**