As fuel prices continue to rise, it becomes more important to get the most out of your fuel dollars. One way you can protect your fuel investment is through proper storage practices.

For example, above ground tanks should be kept shaded from direct sunlight or painted white to reduce gum and varnish formation. On both above and below ground tanks, drain water and sediment frequently. Water can build up surprisingly fast from condensation alone.

One of the worst offenders for fuel contamination is the portable tank. Barrels, fuel cans, or other temporary containers are commonly carried in the back of the truck where they can be exposed to all sorts of weather. Lids are frequently lost or accidentally left off.

Remember, although fuel filters are designed to remove contaminants, clean fuel will enable your filters to last longer, thereby helping to reduce your operating costs.

Keep fill nozzles clean to help reduce further contamination of fuel.