

## Ordering an Air Tanker or Helicopter

To order a **tanker**, here's what you need to do.

1. Provide a ground contact & radio frequency. Fern 1 is most likely choice, although most trucks have Air-Tac channel.
2. Provide Lat/Long of drop area. Or: ask Communications to convert street address to Lat/Long. Then you provide the lat/long. (Dept GPS can be found on Brush 1 and Tender 1)
3. Where do you want it dropped? You can provide an azimuth for the pilot or give a visual: "Can you make a run 100 feet between house and fire." or: Can you make a run on the hot side/head of the fire or just west of the ...
4. Say what you are trying to do. Are you trying to protect a structure: "Please make the drop west of the head of the fire...the primary structure I'm trying to defend is the one to the north of the fire...or the house with the copper roof." Or: Are you trying to pinch the fire? then say so.

If you request or get the **helicopter** here's what you need to do in addition:

1. Provide lat/long of a heli spot -- where the helicopter can land to attach its bucket.
2. Provide a dip spot -- a place for the helicopter to dip water from -- Poorman pond, Wallstreet pond or port-a-pond.

General rules:

- Your ground contact must have a visual as well as radio contact with the tanker or helicopter and the drop site
- Choose sites without power lines or other obstructions

Water Carrying Capacity:

- The SEAT - single engine air tanker has approximately 800 gallons
- The helicopter has 300 gallons.

General safety around aircraft during drop:

1. Hand on helmet
2. Lie down on ground facing drop
3. Place your tool downhill of you