

PROPANE SAFETY INFORMATION

Safety is very important to us, both for our employees and our members. If you are one of our propane members, take a moment to review these safety guidelines.

IF YOU SMELL GAS

- **NO FLAMES OR SPARKS** Immediately put out all smoking materials and other open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.
- **LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
- **SHUT OFF THE GAS.** Turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank, if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
- **REPORT THE LEAK.** From a neighbor's home or other nearby building away from the gas leak, call 911 and The Energy Cooperative right away.
- **DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA.** You should not return to the area until we determine that it is safe to do so.
- **GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED.** Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, we need to check the entire system to ensure it is leak-free.

CARBON MONOXIDE AND YOUR SAFETY

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)? You cannot taste or smell CO, but it is a very dangerous gas produced when any fuel burns.

CARBON MONOXIDE CAN BE DEADLY In extreme cases, high levels of or extended exposure to CO can result in brain damage or death. Symptoms of CO poisoning include: headache; dizziness; shortness of breath; nausea; and fatigue.

IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON DIOXIDE IS PRESENT, ACT IMMEDIATELY

If you or a family member shows physical symptoms of CO poisoning, get everyone out of the building and call 911. If it is safe to do so, open windows to allow entry of fresh air, and turn off any appliances you suspect may be releasing the Carbon dioxide.

If no one has physical symptoms of CO poisoning, but you suspect that CO is present, call us immediately to check CO levels and your propane equipment.

ODOR FADE

Odor fade is an unintended reduction in the concentration of the odor of propane, making it more difficult to smell. Although rare, several situations can cause odor fade:

- Air, water, or rust in a propane tank or cylinder can reduce propane odor concentration.
- If the propane is leaking underground, its passage through soil may reduce the smell of propane.
- The propane odor may stick to the inside surfaces of gas piping and distribution systems and possibly other materials.

Since there is a possibility of odor fade or problems with your sense of smell, you should respond immediately to even a faint odor of gas. IF YOU ARE CONCERNED that you or others in your home may have difficulty smelling propane, consider buying one or more propane gas detectors.

APPLIANCE CONNECTORS

PROPERLY INSTALL AND MAINTAIN CONNECTORS.

The final section of the system that brings gas to your appliances is the appliance connector. It is important that all appliance connectors are properly inspected, installed, and maintained by a qualified service technician.

HAVE CONNECTORS CHECKED WHEN MOVING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES.

Connectors can wear out from too much moving, bending, or corrosion. Connectors should be checked by a qualified service technician whenever the appliance is replaced or moved from its location.

USE ONLY APPROVED APPLIANCE CONNECTORS.

Make sure that all connectors and gas piping/tubing that bring propane to your appliances are installed by a qualified service technician and approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

HAVE OLDER APPLIANCE CONNECTORS INSPECTED.

Over time, some types of appliance connectors can crack or break, resulting in a serious gas leak and the possibility of fire or explosion. If you have an appliance that is more than 20 years old, have a qualified service technician inspect the connectors to be sure they are safe and meet current safety-code requirements.

DO NOT MOVE AN APPLIANCE YOURSELF.

Moving an appliance might damage the connector and create a leak.