



Treat Leaks Seriously!

If you suspect a gas leak:

1. Extinguish all smoking materials and open flames. Do not light matches or create any other source of ignition, including using electrical switches, flashlights, phones or cell phones.
2. Open all doors and windows. Close all cylinder and tank supply valves, and turn off all gas appliances.
3. Get everyone out of the building or vehicle immediately.
4. Go to a nearby phone and dial 911. Do not re-enter the area until it is safe.
5. After the area has been deemed safe, a qualified service technician must repair the leak, turn on the propane, check all the propane appliances, and re-light the pilots on the appliances.

Call Before You Dig

If underground tubing or piping brings propane to your house, call before you dig, and before making an addition to your home, doing major landscaping, or installing fence posts.

Check with municipal government offices for the phone number.

PROPANE SAFETY AT HOME

The following safety tips outline some important procedures and precautions for the proper use and storage of propane gas:

- Keep children off propane storage tanks and away from shut-off valves and propane appliances. Ensure that papers and toys are kept away from furnaces, space heaters and gas fireplaces.
- Keep your head away from the valves on your tank or cylinder. Liquid propane can cause severe frostbite if it comes in contact with your skin or eyes.
- Do not store or use flammable liquids (e.g., gasoline, paint thinner, kerosene, camp fuel, butane, gasoline, alcohol, and lamp oil) in or around propane appliances.
- Ensure that you know the proper procedures for turning the propane supply on and off. Contact your propane supplier for instructions.
- Propane can be detected by its strong, distinct smell — like rotten eggs, or boiling cabbage. If the odour of your propane gas is weak, or your sense of smell is impaired, call your propane supplier and consider the purchase of a propane gas detector.
- Propane is heavier than air, so when checking for leaks, be aware that it gathers in low-lying areas like floors, basements, crawl spaces, etc.

Check for Leaks Regularly

- Check for leaks regularly, including each time you change cylinders, run out of propane, move an appliance, or use an appliance after an extended period.
- To check for leaks at the source of supply:
 - ✓ First shut off all appliances and service valves and ensure there are no open lines, then turn on the container service valve only.
 - ✓ Brush a commercial leak-detector solution (or a mixture of 50% water and 50% liquid soap) onto all connections and valves. If rising bubbles appear, you have a leak.
 - ✓ Close the service valve, tighten the leaking connection, and test again. If bubbles continue, shut off the service valve and contact a qualified service technician.
- After you're sure the system is leak-free and the controls are operating properly, the pilots can be re-lit as per the manufacturer's instructions.



Propane Safety

Safety at Home

PROPANE GAS
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DU GAZ PROPANE



Storage & Handling

- Store cylinders outdoors, away from heat or sources of ignition (matches, smoking materials, etc.), and in a secure, well-ventilated area, off the ground, on a non-combustible base.
- Never store propane containers indoors or in your garage.
- Never store spare cylinders under or near the barbecue.
- Never smoke while handling a propane cylinder.

Think Prevention!

Regular inspections by qualified service technicians not only reduce the risk of leaks or malfunctions, but they also reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning from incomplete combustion and plugged or improperly vented appliances.

Consult a Qualified Service Technician

- Have a qualified service technician inspect, service, clean, and test your fuel-burning appliances and controls, annually, and any time they're moved to a new location, or turned off for an extended period.
- During extended absences from your home, close all propane supply valves on the supply container and at each appliance. Upon your return, have a qualified service technician test for leaks before the propane is turned on. Also have the technician re-light the pilot lights.
- Consult a qualified service technician if you're adding a new fuel-burning appliance or making changes to your home's ventilation system, including adding insulation or new windows.
- Leave installation, repairs, and maintenance to qualified service technicians.
- Repeated problems with a pilot light may be a safety issue — call a professional.

What To Do If You Run Out of Gas

- Check the fuel gauge on your propane container regularly. Do not let the fuel level drop below 20%. Contact your propane retailer to set up a regular delivery schedule.
- Anytime you run out of gas, close the propane supply valve on the container and check all appliance valves to ensure they are closed.
- Do not attempt to re-light pilot lights or activate appliances until you've checked all fittings for leaks — or have a qualified service technician check for you.

Use and Maintain Appliances as Directed

- Refer to the manufacturer's installation and operating manuals provided with your appliances, and use appliances only for the purpose for which they are intended.
- Ensure your home is properly ventilated. Ensure the indoor and outdoor vents, and air inlet ducts for all appliances, are not corroded or blocked, and that they're open and/or turned on.
- When shopping for propane equipment, always ask if the product is certified by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC). Many products sold outside Canada do not comply with Canadian safety standards.

Check out our other Safety Fact Sheets on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, Barbecue Safety, and Storage and Handling Tips!



Canwest Propane
is a proud member of the
Propane Gas Association of
Canada.

Contact us at:
Tel: 403.206.4100
Fax: 403.206.4075

www.canwestpropane.com

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