



Winter Safety Tips - Propane

Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District (District) recommends the following tips to help ensure the safe and reliable use of propane-fired home heating equipment and appliances:

- Make sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors and that the batteries powering them are fresh.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning can result from a malfunctioning heating unit or another propane-burning appliance, as well as from a blocked chimney. Symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Individuals who believe they may be experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning should immediately seek fresh air and prompt medical attention.
- Know the location of your propane meter and regulator, and the exterior location of the vents for each furnace and propane appliance.
- When there is snow accumulation, clear any accumulation from the outside vents of your furnace or other propane appliances. This allows air flow necessary for safe operation. Blocked vents can lead to a dangerous build-up of carbon monoxide or cause heating equipment to stop working.
- If the snow around your propane meter is deep, you should clear the area, providing a path for District personnel who may require access. Please work carefully around your gas meter. Keep snow blowers and plows away from the gas meter and avoid piling snow on the meter and associated piping.

- Remember that an electric power outage will affect blowers and newer heaters with electronic ignitions. If your gas heater does not relight after a power outage, turn the unit off for a moment, then back on. If it still does not light, call a heating professional for service.
- Be aware that the District's propane supply contains an odorant, which smells like rotten eggs, to help you detect a gas leak. The odorant is added in small concentrations and is harmless. If you smell propane, leave the building immediately. Do not use the phone, light a match, or switch anything on or off. Leave the door open, and once clear of the area call the District from your cell phone or neighbor's home. The District's Electric/Propane Emergency response number is 775-901-1565. A service technician will be dispatched to investigate the odor immediately. Your safety is always our top priority.