

HOME SAFETY TIPS

The following information will provide a basic understanding of the properties of propane and its uses; with attention to Fire and Life Safety for the consumer

♦ **What to do if you smell propane gas inside a house or other structure.**

Have everyone leave the house or structure immediately.

Do not smoke or light a match.

Do not turn light switches on or off.

When leaving the house or structure, avoid basement areas if at all possible.

Avoid low areas outside the house or structure where gas vapor may pool.

Do not use an electric garage door opener.

Do not use the phone in the house or structure. Go to a nearby phone to call a propane dealer or emergency responders.

If possible, turn the service valve off as you pass by the tank. (*There should be a shut off valve located at the house and/or at the storage tank.*) Do not stop and wait for help near the house, structure, or the propane tank.

SAFETY TIPS FOR TRANSPORTING & STORAGE OF DOT CYLINDERS

♦ **Practice these safe use guidelines for all propane cylinders.**

Store LPG cylinders in a cool area outside your home or car. Cylinders exposed to heat may vent vapor, which may lead to a hazardous situation.

Do not smoke near propane cylinders or containers, especially when handling or while transporting.



Keep all combustible materials 10 feet away from propane tanks.

Provide ventilation in a vehicle when transporting cylinders. Do not transport more than 90 lbs. of propane.

Propane cylinders rated at 45 lbs. or more are to be transported in an upright position and secured with a safety strap.

Seek assistance from a licensed propane dealer for repair or replacement of cylinders that leak. Never transport leaky cylinders.

Always wear gloves when handling propane cylinders. Direct liquid contact to unprotected skin can cause freeze burn.

Storage within **Residential Buildings, Garages, or Multi-Family Buildings** is limited to two cylinders totaling 2.7 lbs. water capacity each. (or 5.4 lbs. maximum water capacity).

Be sure all valves are tightly closed. Install industry standard cap on valve openings when not connected.

Routinely inspect propane cylinders for damage before using them. Do the “*sniff test*” before use or storage.

Store propane cylinders away from extreme heat or a source of ignition.

Be sure propane cylinders are properly labeled.

Have a propane dealer inspect cylinders for retest dates, damage and leaks.

♦ **Stationary service cylinders** are installed at commercial, industrial and residential applications. They are filled on site by a ‘bobtail’ delivery truck.



When pressure is reduced in a cylinder, propane will produce a vapor by a process of “boiling off”. Propane will boil at -44 degrees Fahrenheit.



Heat has a direct effect to propane. When a container absorbs heat the liquid gas inside expands increasing pressure. Too much internal pressure can cause the *pressure relief valve* to discharge.

Liquid propane released in the atmosphere will expand 270 times in volume as (combustible) vapor.

Propane vapor is not toxic, poisonous, or harmful to the environment. However, because propane vapor is heavier than air, leakage may accumulate in low places resulting in a potential fire hazard.

ASME PROPANE TANKS

(American Society of Mechanical Engineers)

ASME Containers (or tanks as they are often referred to) differ from DOT cylinders in that they are designed for larger stationary service (*except for the permanent installed tanks in vehicles that provide liquid propane fuel for combustion*).

- ◆ **There are four basic types of ASME stationary tanks.**

Domestic and Commercial Storage:

These tanks provide fuel for homes and small commercial uses.

Industrial and Agricultural Storage:

These tanks provide fuel for larger requirements.

Filling Station Storage: These tanks provide fuel at service stations.

Bulk Storage Tanks: Supply delivery trucks that are used to fill stationary tanks.

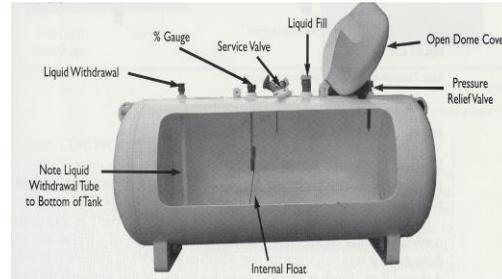
ASME CONTAINERS

ASME Tank Body: The ASME tanks are fabricated by welding two round steel heads to the end of a round steel barrel.



- ◆ **Tank Coating:** Each tank is coated with a non-corrosive primer after it is built (*above ground and underground tanks.*)

- ◆ **Data Plate:** Each ASME tank has a data plate. The “*clover leaf*” marking will distinguish the ASME data plate.
- ◆ **Valve Fittings:** Threaded fittings will be installed at time of manufacture for all attachments of appurtenances.



TRANSPORTING SAFELY

DO NOT attempt to transport large DOT or ASME tanks. The propane industry professionals can assist in the transport of all sizes of propane tanks safely.

TWO STAGE REGULATOR SYSTEM

All tank installations of permanent vapor service are required to have a two-stage regulator system to ensure the proper line pressure to the home.



HOME SAFETY & PROPANE TANK INSTALLATIONS

- ◆ Ask your licensed propane dealer about your propane system and its operation. Always know where the shut off valve is located in case of an emergency.
- ◆ Review all safety and emergency procedures and become familiar with the “**rotten egg**” odor of propane.
- ◆ If appliances operate improperly, contact a licensed propane dealer immediately. ***Do not attempt repairs on any propane gas system or appliance.***
- ◆ Provide propane tanks with **crash protection** where the potential for damage from vehicles and moving equipment exists.
- ◆ Do not dig or engage in construction near tanks without knowing current locations of underground service lines.

Questions regarding information contained in this brochure may be directed to:
Office of State Fire Marshal
(503) 934-8278
or
a licensed propane dealer

LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS and CONSUMER SAFETY

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STATE POLICE



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