

Stay Energy Safe This Winter

As the season for severe winter weather sweeps across the country, make sure your family and your property are prepared for whatever the winter brings. Just follow the tips below and contact your local propane supplier if your propane system ever gets damaged.

CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN - Work with your family to create a plan in the event of a winter storm. As part of this effort, make sure to post contact information for emergency services and utility companies — including your propane supplier. You should also post instructions for turning off your propane, electricity and water. (If you turn off your propane, contact a service technician to inspect your system before turning it back on.)

INSTALL A UL-LISTED GAS DETECTOR - To better prepare for any potential damage, install a UL-listed gas detector in your home, which will notify you if a leak ever occurs. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when it comes to installation, location and maintenance.

PLAN FOR COMMUNICATIONS - Keep a battery-powered radio handy, so you always have a way to receive updates on weather conditions. As storms approach, it's also smart to charge up your smartphones so you have an additional tool for communication through a long power outage. Consider purchasing a propane generator so you always have reliable power, even during blackouts.

INSPECT DAMAGE CAUTIOUSLY - If a storm causes harm to your property, be careful when you assess damage as downed power lines, damaged gas lines and dislodged propane tanks can lead to dangerous situations. In the dark, use a flashlight instead of candles to avoid combustion in the case of a leak.

IF YOU SENSE DANGER, CALL THE EXPERTS - Your utility company, fire department and propane supplier have expert training, and should handle any potentially dangerous situations with your home's systems. Additionally, if a storm damages your property, it's a good idea to have a qualified service technician perform a complete inspection of your propane system, to ensure no harmful damage was done.

AT ANY TIME IF YOU SMELL GAS INSIDE OR OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME:

- 1. 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.
- 2. LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY!** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
- 3. 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).
- 4. REPORT THE LEAK.** From a neighbor's home or other building away from the gas leak, call your propane supplier right away. The numbers to call at CBH are listed below. If you can't reach us, call 911 or your local fire department.
- 5. DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA** until your propane supplier determines that it is safe to do so.
- 6. GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED.** Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, your propane supplier or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak-free.

CBH Propane Service Area Contact Numbers:

Hot Springs	605-745-5215
Rapid City	605-342-4964
Sturgis	605-720-2946
Belle Fouché	605-892-2661
Sundance	605-892-2661
Gillette and Surrounding Areas	307-682-4468

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