

GAS AND PETROLEUM EMERGENCIES

SIGNS OF PETROLEUM PIPELINE RELEASE

- A strange or unusual smell in the area of a pipeline.
- Discoloration of vegetation surrounding the pipeline in an otherwise green area.
- Bubbling in wet areas, marshlands, rivers or creeks, or an oily or multi-colored sheen appearing on water surfaces.
- Flames originating from the ground or valves along the pipeline route.

PETROLEUM HAZARDS

- Petroleum products are may be poisonous if inhaled and may contain chemicals that cause cancer.
- Petroleum products may have a gaseous odor; their vapors are heavier than air and will tend to collect in low-lying areas.

SIGNS OF A PROPANE PIPELINE RELEASE

- A slight mist of ice or a frozen area on exposed pipes, valves or the ground.
- A dense white cloud of fog.
- Propane is odorless and transported in pipelines as a high-pressure liquid that will vaporize if released into the air.

PROPANE HAZARDS

- Propane is extremely and explosive.
- Propane is heavier than air; will tend to collect in low-lying places and may form a liquid pool.
- Contact with propane liquid may result in frostbite.

SIGNS OF A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE RELEASE

- A loud roar or squeal from the area of a pipeline.
- A natural gas odor.
- Fire or explosion.
- Continuous debris or water from an excavation or pipeline.
- Bubbling in wet areas, marshlands, rivers or creeks.

NATURAL GAS HAZARDS

- Natural gas is and explosive.
- Natural gas will displace air and cause dizziness or loss of consciousness if inhaled.
- Natural gas is lighter than air and will rise from a leak source.

WHAT TO DO IF A LEAK IS SUSPECTED

- **Do** leave the area or building immediately by foot in a direction away from the vapors or fumes.
- **Do** avoid anything that could cause vapors to ignite.
- **Do** warn others to stay away from the area.
- **Do** call 911 and/or the fuel supplier from a remote location.
- **Do not** light a match, start an engine, operate any electrical device (telephone, light switch, doorbell, garage door opener, etc.). Avoid carpeted areas that could cause a static electric spark.
- **Do not** take time to open windows, turn off pilot lights or other equipment.
- **Do not** drive into or near the area around the leak.
- **Do not** try to extinguish a fire on a pipeline or operate any pipeline equipment.

If your carbon monoxide detector goes off, **call 911.**
Do not ventilate (see above). Exit the building.