Important Propane Safety Information

for you and your family

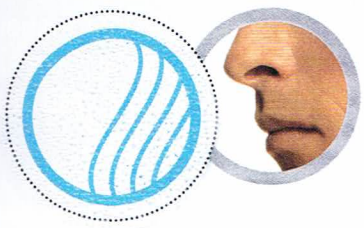
Please read and follow the safety rules in this brochure. Share this information with your family to help keep everyone safe and to reduce the risk of serious and potentially fatal injury, fire, or explosion.

Este folleto contiene información importante acerca de la seguridad relacionada con el gas propano: Pida su versión en español a su vendedor de gas propano.

PROPANE
EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY®

If you smell gas

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 nearby building away from the gas leak, call your propane retailer right away. If you can't reach your propane retailer, call 911 or your local fire department.
5. **DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA** until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified service technician 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 retailer or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak-free.



Take the sniff test

Scratch and sniff the blue circle. The odor is similar to propane odor. Have everyone in your family take the sniff test. Always take action if you smell any kind of foul odor.

Can you smell it?

Propane smells like rotten eggs, a skunk's spray, or a dead animal. Some people may have difficulty smelling propane due to their age (older people may have a less sensitive sense of smell); a medical condition; or the effects of medication, alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

ODOR LOSS. On rare occasions, propane can lose its odor. Several things can cause this including:

- The presence of air, water, or rust in a propane tank or cylinder
- The passage of leaking propane through the soil

Since there is a possibility of odor loss or problems with your sense of smell, you should respond immediately to even a faint odor of gas.

Propane gas detectors

Under some circumstances, you may not smell a propane leak. Propane gas detectors sound an alarm if they sense propane in the air. They can provide an additional measure of security. You should consider the purchase of one or more detectors for your home.

GUIDELINES regarding propane gas detectors:

- Buy only units that are listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding installation and maintenance.
- Never ignore the smell of propane, even if no detector is sounding an alarm.

Carbon monoxide AND your safety

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)?
You can't taste or smell CO, but it is a very dangerous gas, produced when any fuel burns. High levels of CO can come from appliances that are not operating correctly, or from a venting system or chimney that becomes blocked.

CO CAN BE DEADLY! High levels of CO can make you dizzy or sick (see below). In extreme cases, CO can cause brain damage or death.

Symptoms of CO poisoning include:

- **Headache**
- **Dizziness**
- **Fatigue**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Nausea**

If you suspect CO is present, act immediately!

1. **If you or a family member shows physical symptoms of CO poisoning, get everyone out of the building and call 911 or your local fire department.**
2. **If it is safe to do so, open windows to allow entry of fresh air, and turn off any appliances you suspect may be releasing CO.**
3. **If no one has symptoms, but you suspect that CO is present, call your propane retailer or a qualified service technician to check CO levels and your propane equipment.**

TO HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF CO POISONING:

- Have a qualified service technician check your propane appliances and related venting systems annually, preferably before the heating season begins.
- Install UL-listed CO detectors on every level of your home.
- Never use a gas oven or range-top burners to provide space heating.
- Never use portable heaters indoors unless they are designed and approved for indoor use.
- Never use a barbecue grill (propane or charcoal) indoors for cooking or heating.
- Regularly check your appliance exhaust vents for blockage.

SIGNS OF IMPROPER APPLIANCE OPERATION THAT CAN GENERATE HIGH CO LEVELS:

- Sooting, especially on appliances and vents
- Unfamiliar or burning odor
- Increased moisture inside of windows

What is propane?

Propane (also called LPG—liquefied petroleum gas—or LP gas) is a liquid fuel stored under pressure. In most systems, propane is vaporized to a gas before it leaves the tank. Propane is flammable when mixed with air (oxygen) and can be ignited by many sources, including open flames, smoking materials, electrical sparks, and static electricity. Severe freeze burn or frostbite can result if propane liquid comes in contact with your skin.

Lighting pilot lights

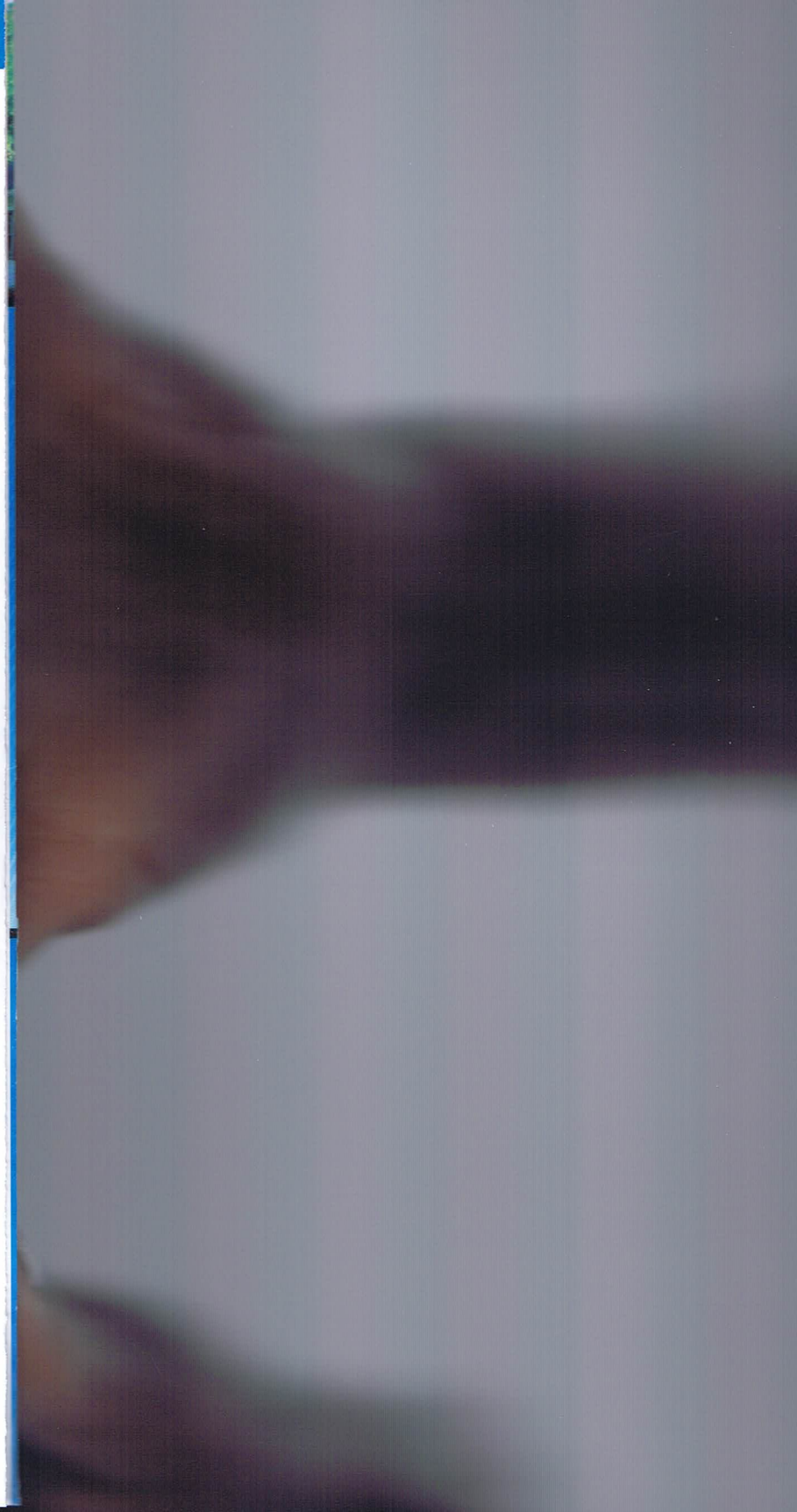
IF A PILOT LIGHT REPEATEDLY GOES OUT or is very difficult to light, there may be a safety problem. **DO NOT** try to fix the problem yourself. It is strongly recommended that only a **QUALIFIED SERVICE TECHNICIAN** light any pilot light that has gone out.

YOU ARE TAKING THE RISK of starting a fire or an explosion if you light a pilot light yourself. Carefully follow all of the manufacturer's instructions and warnings concerning the appliance before attempting to light the pilot.

Appliance maintenance

LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS. Only a qualified service technician has the training to install, inspect, service, maintain, and repair your appliances. Have your appliances and propane system inspected just before the start of each heating season.

HELP YOUR APPLIANCES "BREATHE." Check the vents of your appliances to be sure that flue gases can flow easily to the outdoors; clear away any insect or bird nests or other debris. Also, clear the area around your appliances so plenty of air can reach the burner for proper combustion.

DO NOT TRY TO MODIFY OR REPAIR valves, regulators, connectors, controls, or other appliance and cylinder/tank parts. Doing so creates the risk of a gas leak that can result in property damage, serious injury, or death.

HAVE OLDER APPLIANCE CONNECTORS INSPECTED. Certain older appliance connectors may crack or break, causing a gas leak. If you have an appliance that is more than 20 years old, have a qualified service technician inspect the connector. Do not do this yourself, as movement of the appliance might damage the connector and cause a leak.