

Propane cylinders safely contain fuel gas used for barbeques, gas appliances in recreational vehicles (RVs), and other portable equipment. When used properly, propane is a safe and convenient fuel. Follow these tips to stay safe.

Propane basics

- Never smoke while handling propane.
- Ensure that your propane appliances are labeled as certified by testing agencies, such as the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Intertek Testing Services (ITS) and the Underwriter's Laboratories of Canada (ULC), certified appliances will be marked with the symbol of the testing agency.
- Only a certified gasfitter or installer should install, service, repair or replace propane equipment.

Filling propane cylinders

- Only properly trained and certified individuals are allowed to fill propane cylinders.
- Never ask to have a cylinder filled to more than 80% capacity, as propane needs room to expand.
- Refillable cylinders must be requalified or replaced every 10 years after the date of manufacture.
- If a refillable propane cylinder has expired, or is rusted, dented or otherwise damaged, it can no longer be filled. These cylinders must be requalified, or disposed of properly.

Transporting and storing propane cylinders

- Ensure the cylinder valve outlet is properly sealed with a cap or plug when it is not connected for use.
- Store cylinders outside in an upright position; do not store cylinders indoors or on the roof of a building.
- Ensure cylinders are secure in an upright position during transport.
- Transport cylinders in a well-ventilated space. If transporting cylinders in the trunk of a vehicle prop the trunk open. Never transport a cylinder in the passenger compartment of a vehicle.
- Keep cylinders at least 3 metres (10 feet) away from any open flame or source of ignition.

How to check for propane leaks

- In a container mix a half liquid soap and half water solution.
- With the appliance turned off and the cylinder valve open, brush on the solution over all connections — bubbles will form if there is a leak.
- If a leak is detected, close the cylinder valve, recheck the connection and repeat the leak test, if you require assistance contact a certified gasfitter.

How to dispose of propane cylinders

- Even when you think it is empty, a propane cylinder will still contain some residual propane.
- Never throw your unwanted propane cylinders in the garbage, road side pick-up or recycling containers
- Propane refill centers, suppliers, retailers who sell new cylinders may accept cylinders for disposal.
- Check with your local authority as some recycling depots may also accept unwanted cylinders.

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For more information, please call Municipal Affairs, Safety Services at 1-866-421-6929 or visit www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca