



NATURAL GAS SAFETY

Natural gas is one of the safest fuels. Composed mostly of methane, it is naturally colourless and odourless. For safety's sake, an odour is added - a smell like rotten eggs or sulphur - so you can easily detect it. When natural gas leaks it will mix with air and can cause a fire if there is a source of ignition (or explosion if it accumulates in a confined space). Natural gas is not poisonous but can cause unconsciousness in high concentrations when it displaces air.

If you think that you smell natural gas indoors:

- ✓ Open doors and windows
- ✓ Do not smoke, light matches, operate electrical
- ✓ switches or create any other source of ignition
- ✓ Leave the premises
- ✓ Turn off your gas meter, if you know how
- ✓ Go to a nearby phone and call your natural gas utility,
- ✓ 911, or Fire Department emergency number.
- ✓ If there is a strong smell of gas, if you hear the flow of
- ✓ escaping gas, or if gas is leaking from a broken or
- ✓ disconnected gas pipe, do the following:
- ✓ Leave the premises
- ✓ Go to a nearby phone and call your natural gas utility,
- ✓ 911, or Fire Department emergency number.

Leave it to an expert! Once the gas is turned off, it should be turned back on by a qualified individual who can check out the appliances and venting.