Energy Matters

from

Allied Propane Service

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

protecting your home and family during wildfire season

Dustin Kaiser

Dear Friends,

Wildfire risk is now a year-round concern in our area. With dry vegetation, windy days, and an early-season heat wave already raising concerns, a little preparation now can make a big difference.

If your home uses propane, start by clearing the area around your tank. Remove leaves, branches, dry weeds, and other flammable debris. You should always store propane cylinders **outdoors** and at least 10 feet from structures. Keeping an adequate propane supply is also smart, since wildfires can shut down roads and delay deliveries for extended periods.

Make a family emergency plan that includes evacuation routes, emergency contacts, and instructions for shutting off utilities. Put together a supply kit with medications, water, canned food, flashlights, batteries, and blankets.

If fire threatens your property, turn off your propane supply only if it is **safe** to do so, then leave immediately if authorities order an evacuation. After you return, inspect your property carefully. Use flashlights, not candles, and look for damaged gas lines, tanks, or downed power lines. **Never** use outdoor propane appliances indoors.

If you think your propane system has been damaged, schedule an inspection with us before using it again. When danger rises, staying informed and prepared is one of the best ways to protect your home and family. Please reach out to us if you have any questions, and stay safe out there.

Warmly,

Dustin Kaiser, Senior Vice President

4 safety tips for propane cylinders

1. **Keep propane cylinders upright**, always store them outdoors, and transport them in a well-ventilated vehicle.
2. **Never place them indoors,** in a garage, shed, tent, or vehicle trunk, or near heat sources.
3. **Check valves and connections** with soapy water to spot leaks. (Look for bubbles.)
4. **Never smoke while handling cylinders,** and keep valves closed tightly when not in use.

Please visit our website to read more propane safety tips.

supporting vineyards & farms

While we're well-known for our dependable propane service, we do much more than fuel delivery. We also support local growers with our agricultural services. These include:

- ✔ **sustainable weed control**
- ✔ **propane irrigation engines**
- ✔ **grain, fruit, and nut dryers**

We also provide frost protection for vineyards and farms. With Allied, you get the support you need to keep your wind machines ready to perform. We offer different tank sizes, piping from tank to machine for reliable operation, and tank monitoring with automatic propane delivery so you do not run out when it matters most. High-volume customers may also qualify for discounts.

We are also proud to support the **Frost Alert Program,** which helps vineyard managers prepare for dangerous cold snaps.

Please visit our website to learn more about our diversified services.

PSPR20-19029

Clean and Green — *Propane Can Do That!*

We have always taken pride in delivering a safe, reliable, highly efficient and *environmentally friendly* fuel to our customers. Here's a closer look at some of the healthy advantages of using propane.

3 reasons propane is eco-friendly

Propane helps fuel your lifestyle, saves you money, keeps your home comfortable and adds convenience to your daily life. But did you know that propane is also considered one of the greenest fuels?

1. Fewer emissions.

Propane has a lower carbon content than fuel oil, gasoline, diesel, kerosene or ethanol—a big part of the reason that it was added to the Clean Air Act as a clean fuel in 1990. Propane furnaces offer best-in-class efficiency, with AFUE ratings from 90% to 98%, and provide comfortable, even and consistent heat.

2. Higher efficiency.

Propane-powered appliances are typically much more efficient than electric models of similar size and output. A tankless propane water heater, for example, can save more than $150 per year in energy costs compared with typical electric storage water heaters. Less energy used equals less of an environmental impact.

3. Propane is nontoxic.

Propane is not toxic and does not spill, pool or leave a residue. If a tank leak occurs, propane is harmless to soil or water, so there are no risks for long-term damage to your home or property.

Please contact us if you would like to help the environment by expanding your use of propane.

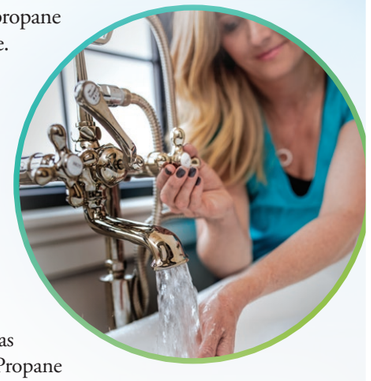
things you may not know about propane

- Compared with other fuels, **propane is much less combustible.** When combined with air, the source of ignition must be at least 940°—that's twice as hot as what is required to ignite gasoline.
- High-efficiency heat pumps can be driven by a propane-fueled engine. This system is designed to **efficiently heat and cool multiple zones in a home.**
- Because of the fuel's safety, installing propane tanks (above or below ground), is **not regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency.**
- Propane is an **essential fuel for nearly 900,000 farms** in the United States. It's used for irrigation pumps, crop drying, fruit ripening, space and water heating, generators and refrigeration.

Source: Propane Education and Research Council.

what's better: a propane or an electric water heater?

Here are a few great reasons a propane water heater is the better choice.



- ✔ **Comfort and convenience.** With a propane hot water tank, you will most likely never run out of hot water again, because propane can heat water twice as fast as an electric unit. A 50-gallon propane water heater delivers the same amount of hot water as an 80-gallon electric unit. Propane water heaters also have more accurate temperature controls and offer many more options in terms of size and where you can put them in your home.
- ✔ **Greater value.** Propane water heaters cost 30% to 60% less to operate than electric water heaters. A propane unit has a lower cost of maintenance and lasts years longer than its electric counterparts. If you want an easy way to raise the value of your home, switch to a propane water heater! A tankless model is especially desirable to home buyers, as it will improve your LEED and home-energy rating (HERS) scores.
- ✔ **Clean and green.** Choosing propane means you will be lowering greenhouse gas emissions and doing your part to save our planet. An electric water heater simply can't make that claim.

Whether you choose a propane tank water heater or a tankless unit for your home, you will find superior value and convenience that offers greater comfort for you and your family.

school buses get greener

Many states, including ours, have been adopting alternative-energy incentive programs, resulting in more school districts purchasing **propane autogas buses.**

According to a recent study by West Virginia University's Center for Alternative Fuels, Engines and Emissions, propane autogas is a proven way to dramatically decrease oxides of nitrogen emissions in communities.* The positive effects become especially powerful when propane-powered school buses replace old diesel-powered buses.

School districts have gained enormous fuel savings by using propane autogas instead of more expensive diesel fuel. Kids are also benefitting from a healthier ride to and from school, because buses fueled by propane autogas emit far fewer emissions.

In terms of fuel and maintenance costs, schools can save an average of **$3,000 to $5,000 per bus.**

The Propane Education and Research Council estimates that if all diesel school buses across the United States were switched over to propane-fueled buses, **the savings would be enough to cover the cost of hiring 23,000 teachers.**

*Source: https://cdn.propane.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/WVU-School-Bus-Emissions-Final-Report-June-2019.pdf

healthy grilling with propane

Did you know that propane grills are a much healthier and more environmentally friendly way to cook your food? Research shows that cooking on a charcoal grill can lead to as much as **105 times more carbon monoxide** being produced than with a propane grill.

A typical charcoal grill also produces an astonishing 11 pounds of carbon dioxide per hour, or **twice as much as a propane grill.** (An electric grill does even worse, producing 15 pounds of carbon dioxide per hour).*

Besides producing much lower emissions levels, propane grills **greatly reduce your exposure to carcinogens** that end up in your food when grilling. Charcoal grills create more smoke and burn hotter, leading to the formation of toxins that have been linked to some cancers.

*When tested at 35,000 BTUs per hour, based on a study by Tristram West, a researcher with the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

understanding your tank gauge

Did you ever wonder why your propane tank gauge doesn't read 100% right after we make a delivery?

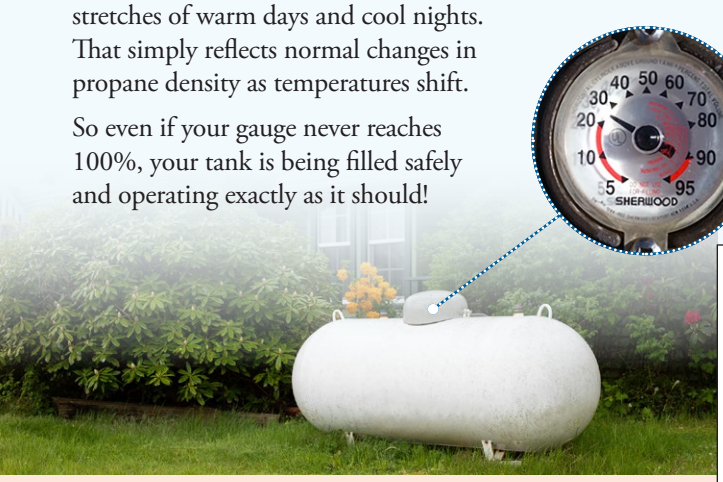
Propane needs space to expand and contract as outdoor temperatures change, so our drivers never fill a tank all the way.

Aboveground tanks are typically filled to about 80% capacity, while underground tanks can be filled slightly higher. That extra room acts as an important safety cushion. For example, a 500-gallon tank filled to 80% will hold about 400 gallons of propane.

You may also notice the gauge rising or falling a bit during stretches of warm days and cool nights. That simply reflects normal changes in propane density as temperatures shift.

So even if your gauge never reaches 100%, your tank is being filled safely and operating exactly as it should!

If you're not on automatic delivery, call us to order more propane when your gauge reaches about 30%.



help us deliver safely and smoothly

A few simple steps can help make your fuel delivery smooth, safe, and hassle-free.

If your property has a gate, please make sure it is unlocked before your scheduled delivery, especially if you will not be home. You can also provide a gate code, key, or combination, if needed. Be sure the gate is working properly and has any required safety signage. Regular inspection and maintenance help keep it safe and dependable.

Next, clear the path to your propane tank so your delivery driver has easy access. Move vehicles, equipment, or other obstacles that could block the route.

Finally, keep pets secured and away from the delivery area. Bringing them indoors or placing them in a fenced area helps protect both your pets and our delivery team.

With just a little preparation, every delivery can be quicker, easier, and safer for everyone.

Pro-Gas
ALLIED PROPANE SERVICE

Allied Clean Fuels Plaza

Allied Pacific Energy

Napa: **707-252-5500**
221 Devlin Road, Napa, CA 94558

Richmond: **510-237-7077**
5000 Seaport Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804

Dixon: **707-678-8500**
1700 North 1st Street, Suite B, Dixon, CA 95620

www.AlliedPropaneService.com

Pro-Gas
ALLIED PROPANE SERVICE

Allied Clean Fuels Plaza

Allied Pacific Energy

VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

PRESORTED
STANDARD MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
DG3

Propane • Grills • Generators • Water Heaters • Irrigation Engines • Forklift Exchange • Cylinder Exchange • Transport Deliveries • Outdoor Heating Specialist

snapshot

Meet Bill Marshal, our Richmond Operations Manager. Bill joined our team in March 2024, bringing with him over 30 years of experience in operations, team development, and project management.

Bill's experience includes six years of managing and growing the service department for an access control company, with a focus on gates, credential management, and security video surveillance.

"Every day presents a different need and opportunity for success," Bill says. "But my past experience has given me a solid skill set in problem-solving and project execution. One of my many goals here is to create measurable results while fostering strong personal and professional connections. This provides the opportunity to educate, inform, and adapt to achieve success."