# How Do You Tell If There Is A Leak

**By Smell**. A disagreeable odor is added to the propane so that you will be able to detect the smell easily in case a leak develops or an unlit burner is left turned on.

You should be aware that some persons have different thresholds of smell and cannot detect the odor of propane as readily as others. Also, sometimes people with a normal sense of smell temporarily lose their ability to detect odors because of illness, use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs. Also, cooking odors, tobacco smoke, aerosols and odor removing sprays can cover up other odors. In certain instances, the odorant in the propane may diminish or weaken, making it difficult for a person with a normal sense of smell to detect a gas leak. Be aware that being heavier than air, leaking propane may tend to settle near the floor while dissipating into the air.

# What To Do If You Have A Leak

Never assume that the odor of gas is a sign that your tank is running low. If you smell gas in the house, IMMEDI-ATELY follow these suggestions:

### <u>DO...</u>

- Extinguish all smoking materials and any other open flames or sources of ignition.
- Get everyone outside and away from the building.

- Shut off the gas supply at the tank.
- Call your propane supplier from a neighbor's phone. If you cannot reach your supplier, call the fire department.
- Stay outside and leave the gas off until the leak has been found and fixed.

#### DO NOT...

- Turn light switches, appliances or thermostats on or off, and do not use the telephone. A spark from one of these could ignite the gas.
- Light or try to re-light any appliances. Leave this job to your supplier.
- Re-enter the building, until the problem has been corrected.

Your propane supplier cares about you and your family's safety and wants to protect you by ensuring your propane system is completely safe. Help us help you enjoy the many benefits of propane gas.

For more information, contact your Propane Supplier





YOU Have A
Legal Duty To Notify
Your Propane
Supplier...

sponsored by Alabama Propane Gas Association

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# Duty To Notify

#### Did You Know...

The Alabama LP-Gas Law states that only a person, firm or corporation having a valid permit issued by the Alabama LP-Gas Board is to perform maintenance and/or repair to include the installation, adjustments and/or servicing of any propane gas appliances such as ranges, heat producing devices, water heaters, etc., containers, tanks and/or systems. The permit is issued when the person, firm or corporation has passed a review that verifies their knowledge and ability to properly handle propane.

## Did You Know...

If a person, firm or corporation does the above listed work without securing the proper permit first, they are violating the law and if convicted in the criminal court of Alabama the violator could be fined up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or sentenced up to six (6) months in jail or both.

#### What You Must Do...

The end user or person authorizing such actions by any person, firm or corporation is required by Alabama law to notify their propane supplier that work and/or service will be performed prior to it actually being performed. [Section 9-17-109(e)] Such notification should include the name of the person, firm or corporation that will perform the work and/or service, the type of work and/or service to be performed, and should be filed with the propane supplier prior to such work and/or service being performed.

## Did You Know...

When the law says "any person", it is referring to you, the consumer also.

Please think before you decide to install or work on your own system. Is it worth risking your safety or your family's safety? Let the people that are properly licensed and trained handle your propane gas installation and service needs.

## Running Out of Gas...

# DON'T RUN OUT OF GAS. SERIOUS SAFETY HAZARDS, INCLUDING FIRE OR EXPLOSION, CAN RESULT.

- If an appliance valve or a gas line is left open when the propane supply runs out, a leak could occur when the system is recharged with propane.
- Air and moisture could get into an empty or depleted storage tank, which can cause rust build-up inside the tank. Rust can decrease the concentration of the odor of propane, making it harder to smell.
- If your propane tank runs out of gas, any pilot lights on your appliances will go out. This can be extremely dangerous if not handled properly.
- A LEAK CHECK IS REQUIRED. In Alabama, a propane supplier or a licensed service provider must perform a leak check of your propane system before turning on the gas.
- **SET UP REGULAR DELIVERY**. Establish a regular delivery schedule with your propane supplier.

(Source: Propane Education and Research Council)

Don't Wait Until It's Too Late...
Call Your Propane Supplier Before
You Run Out Of Gas!