

Safety | Tips RV/Camping Propane Safety

Many recreational vehicles (RV's) are equipped with propane-fuelled appliances. Propane appliances can also be useful for tent camping. Follow these tips to stay safe.

General safety tips

- Ensure that propane appliances are certified by a testing agency, such as Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Intertek Testing Services (ITS), or Underwriter's Laboratories (ULC). Certified appliances will be marked with the symbol of the testing agency.
- Consult and follow manufacturer's instructions for operating your appliance.
- Never use unventilated appliances such as barbeques, portable space heaters, or torches inside an RV, tent, camper or any enclosed space.
- Propane appliances may produce carbon monoxide if they are not operated properly. Ensure there is a supply of fresh air when operating a propane appliance.
- Use appliances properly. Never use cooking appliances for heating purposes.
- Have propane appliances, including those in RVs, checked and serviced at least once a year by the dealer or a qualified gasfitter.
- Do not use your appliances before the annual inspection. Insects or rodents may damage the appliance when it is not in use.

Filling Up

When filling a propane tank mounted on an RV, be sure to:

- Turn the ignition off.
- Have all passengers exit the RV.
- Ensure that there are no sources of ignition within 3 metres (10 feet). Never smoke near a propane filling station.
- Ensure all valves are closed and caps are replaced after filling.

Transporting propane

- Never transport propane cylinders inside an RV or vehicle.
- Transport propane cylinders in a well ventilated place.
- Ensure propane cylinders are secured upright and protected from impact.
- Cylinders should not be mounted on the back of a vehicle unless there is substantial protection.
- Cylinders should never be mounted on the roof of a vehicle.

RV Appliances

- Ensure the flame on appliances is clear blue with occasional yellow tips. A mostly yellow flame is a warning sign of incomplete combustion and possible carbon monoxide presence.
- Consider installing a carbon monoxide detector inside your recreational vehicle. Look for an alternating current model that is also available in a 12-volt version.

Last updated/reviewed June 2016

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

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