

Eastern Alpine Fire Department & Rescue

Propane Tank Advisory

Snow can be dangerous for your propane tank if you don't follow a few simple safety precautions.

1. Mark your tank with a brightly colored flag or other marker that can be seen after heavy snowfalls. If unmarked, your tank could be hit by a plow, car or snow shovel which can cause damage to your tank and or cause leaks. Make sure everyone in your household knows the location of the propane tank and how to shut off the gas in the event of a leak or fire.
2. Clear any snow from your propane tank. This can help prevent accidents by making your tank more visible. Be sure to use a broom or other soft tool. Using a shovel could puncture your tank. The weight of the snow can damage the pipes and fittings, causing gas leaks. Check the regulator vents on your propane system to be sure they are free of snow, ice, or water that could freeze. If a heavy snow is forecast, cover the regulator, relief valves, and fill valves with a protective dome cover that will keep out the snow ice and moisture but won't block the valves.
3. Clear a path to your tank. After snowfall, it may be second nature to shovel your driveway, but don't forget about the propane tank in your yard. Clearing a path makes it easier for your delivery driver to deliver your propane without wading through the snow. You won't miss a delivery because your tank isn't shoveled but it isn't easy to drag the hose through snow.
4. Check your propane levels, especially before a snowstorm. If your levels are a quarter tank or lower, contact us for a delivery to ensure you have enough propane to get you through the storm.

After the Storm

We recommend taking the time to carefully inspect your tank and the area surrounding it. Look to see if there are downed power lines. Strong winds and falling ice can alter or damage gas lines and tanks. Immediately call your local propane retailer if you notice anything that could be a hazard.