

Placer County Health and Human Services Department

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PROPANE TANKS, PIPING AND REGULATORS CLEARANCE ON SITES <u>NOT</u> CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED AS HAVING A PROPANE RELEASE

The public has inquired about clearing their propane tanks, piping and regulators. This can be completed on sites that have not been documented with propane releases. A current list of known impacted release sites is available at the County's Evacuation Information Center (EIC) at the Summit Restaurant and Bar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays just off Interstate 80 at the Soda Springs exit. All persons entering the Serene Lakes subdivision (contractors, residents, propane vendors) must sign in at the EIC prior to conducting any work in the area to uncover tanks.

If a site has been identified as a having a propane release, whether from the site propane supply or possibly another site, a certified hazardous waste contractor is required to do the abatement.

At this time, propane tanks in the Serene Lake area are not allowed to be refilled. Propane vendors will be advised when tanks are allowed to be refilled.

The County has developed a procedure to be followed before filling propane tanks:

- The tank, piping and both the regulator at the tank and the regulator at the house must be cleared of snow and ice to the ground.
- Overhead hazards must be removed that could impact the tank, piping or regulators, typically snow movement off of roofs.
- If asked, the Truckee Fire Protection District (TFPD) will confirm that the areas around the tanks, piping and regulators do not indicate releases.

Conditions are continuing to change and propane risks will continue over time. If new snow occurs, the clearance of the tank, piping, and regulators must be maintained. Do not blow or plow snow over the tank, piping or regulators. Protection from additional hazards from overhead snow movements must continue.

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the safe access to tank(s), piping and regulators. Propane vendors will only be allowed to deliver propane to sites that are safely maintained as bulleted above.

We recommend that you winterize your home when not onsite by draining the hot water tank, emptying the home pipes, turning off propane at the tank, turning off the electric power at the breaker box, etc.

WHEN CLEARING SNOW AROUND TANKS, PIPING AND REGULATORS, WORKERS MUST STOP AND LEAVE THE SITE IF THERE IS ANY INDICATION OF A PROPANE RELEASE. EVACUATE THE AREA, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY AND WAIT AT A SAFE DISTANCE, MINIMALLY 300 FEET AWAY AND UPHILL, FOR TFPD TO ARRIVE.