

Propane users can do their part by being prepared in the event of a flood

OTTAWA, July 6, 2020 – Many parts of central and northeast British Columbia are under warnings and advisories due to flooding. The Canadian Propane Association (CPA) and propane retailers encourage residents to do their part to protect themselves and their property in the event of a flood.

“We are in uncharted territory in dealing with the COVID-19 virus and many Canadians are already under a great deal of stress,” says **Nathalie St-Pierre, CPA President and CEO**. “But if propane users are prepared in the event of a flood, they can help to alleviate additional pressure by ensuring they are emergency ready and keep their homes and family safe.”

The CPA’s **Flood Safety Tips** can help Canadians take concrete actions to be prepared if flooding occurs. Propane is among the safest fuels available – it is non-toxic and dissipates quickly if accidentally released – but it is important to always be cautious when and after a flood occurs. Floods can have serious effects on the structure of a home, so it is important to take precautions and follow the CPA’s simple safety measures.

When a flood warning is issued:

- Anchor fuel tanks to the ground – propane tanks, even full ones – will float in water;
- Learn how and where to shut off the gas supplies to your propane tank and appliances; and
- Make sure family members know the smell of propane – like rotten eggs or a skunk.

After a flood has occurred:

- If you have any doubts at all about your house’s overall safety, have an engineer inspect it;
- If it is dark, use a flashlight – avoid any flame or spark; and
- Do not turn your propane or electricity supply back on until all water has been removed, and you have had a provincially certified technician inspect and repair the entire system.

Other tips include keeping propane tank levels at optimum amounts as a flood could disrupt deliveries. Local propane retailers are only a quick phone call away for additional assistance with flood-proofing procedures and advice. If a home visit is required, propane retailers have implemented [best practices during COVID-19](#) to ensure the safety of employees and customers while maintaining propane as an essential service.

“More than ever, safety in all aspects of our lives is paramount. We all have a role to play to maintain social distancing to stop COVID-19 and this includes being prepared for floods. We encourage Canadians to take action now and be prepared to protect themselves and their families if the need arises,” says St-Pierre.

For the full list of flood safety tips, view CPA’s Fact Sheet: [Flood Safety for Propane Users](#) or visit www.propane.ca.

-30-

About the Canadian Propane Association: With over 400 members, the Canadian Propane Association (CPA) is the national association for a growing, multi-billion-dollar industry that impacts the livelihood of tens of thousands of Canadians. Our mission is to promote a safe and thriving propane industry that plays a vital role in Canada’s energy sector. To achieve this, we champion propane and the propane industry in Canada and facilitate best practices, safety and a favourable business environment through advocacy, training and emergency response.

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