

## Natural Gas Meter Safety Tips

### Keep your natural gas meter clear in winter.

- ◆ Remove any built-up snow by hand until the regular and shut-off valve are clear
- ◆ Never kick or hit the meter to break ice or snow build-up. If ice builds up on your meter or regulator, call your service provider for help
- ◆ Don't use a snowblower or plow near your meter
- ◆ Maintain a clear path to the meter—take care not to shovel snow onto it
- ◆ When clearing and shovelling snow, also ensure appliance vents on the side of your home are not blocked

### Year-round meter safety tips:

- ◆ Keep the area around the meter clear of plants, shrubbery, and landscaping
- ◆ Don't tie or attach anything to your meter
- ◆ Don't store or lean anything against the meter
- ◆ If your meter is in a driveway or parking area, install protection posts to prevent vehicle damage
- ◆ Don't build structures around or over the meter and piping
- ◆ Take care not to bury the meter shut-off valve, which is on the inlet pipe next to the meter
- ◆ If you're renovating and adding windows, doors or vents to your building, ensure there is adequate distance between the opening and the gas meter
- ◆ If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your natural gas service provider

## BC 1 CALL

If you're planning to break ground, whether you're digging in the yard, building a fence or excavating a job site, **you must click or call BC 1 Call BEFORE you dig**. Even just hitting pipes with a shovel could cause a leak.

BC 1 Call provides you with the location of underground gas lines and other buried utilities in your area. It's free, fast and could help you avoid safety hazards and costly repairs.

<https://www.bc1c.ca> info@bc1c.ca 1-800-474-6886



## Has Your Gas Been Shut Off?

**Don't try to turn it back on.** Only a licensed gas contractor can turn the gas back on. **Contact your gas service provider.**

## CONTACT US

### KITIMAT FIRE & AMBULANCE SERVICES

1101 Kingfisher Ave.,

Kitimat, BC V8C 2N4

Phone: (250) 632-8940

[www.kitimat.ca/en/our-community/fire-and-rescue.aspx](http://www.kitimat.ca/en/our-community/fire-and-rescue.aspx)

**FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 9-1-1!**

## Natural Gas Safety



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**Phone: (250) 632-8940**

**[www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca)**



## Natural Gas...What is it?

Natural gas is a naturally-occurring hydrocarbon, composed mainly of methane. It can heat water for your bath or shower, run your furnace or fireplace, and cook your food.



## Carbon Monoxide Safety

Unlike the smell of natural gas, carbon monoxide (CO) has no smell at all. It's a by-product of burning fuel, such as natural gas. When there isn't enough fresh air to completely burn, or if exhaust fumes aren't vented to the outdoors, a build up of CO can result.

The risk of CO poisoning from well-maintained natural gas appliances is extremely low. This risk can be further reduced by having a licensed professional install, inspect and service your appliances. Also checking chimneys annually or according to manufacturer's instructions to make sure they are connected, clear of obstructions and in good repair.

A CO detector should also be installed on every level of the home and in sleeping areas if your home has a fuel-burning appliance/heater, fireplace or attached garage.



## Smell Rotten Eggs?

### ACT FAST: GO OUTSIDE

Before natural gas is piped into your house, a chemical called mercaptan is added to make it smell like sulphur or rotten eggs. **If you suddenly smell rotten eggs or hear the hissing sound of escaping gas, it could be a natural gas leak.**

1. **Stop what you're doing.** Don't use your cellphone or landline, don't smoke, light matches or operate electrical switches or create any other source of ignition.
2. **Go outside.** As you exit, leave the door open behind you as well as any windows that may already be open.
3. **Report it.** Once outside, **CALL 911**, and your gas service provider's 24-hour emergency line:  
  
FortisBC: **1-800-663-9911**  
  
Pacific Northern Gas: **1-800-663-1173**
4. **Stay outside**, until an official says it's safe to go back in.

