

FACT:

- There has been a steady decline in the average number of gasoline fires in homes each year since 1980 when there were 15,000 fires.
- U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 1,390 home structure fires involving LP-gas in 2000-2004.
- These fires resulted in 23 civilian deaths., 193 civilian injuries and \$49 million in direct property damage.

For more information contact:

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*Gasoline
and Propane
Safety*



Promotion, Prevention, Protection





GASOLINE AT HOME

- In 2003-2006, municipal fire departments responded to an estimated 2,400 gasoline structure fires in U.S. homes, annually. These fires resulted in 110 civilian deaths, 313 civilian injuries and \$105.9 million in direct property damage.
- 49% of home gasoline structure fires each year between 2003 and 2006 were categorized as intentional. Almost three-quarters of civilian injuries resulted from unintentional causes. Fuel spills or releases; using gasoline to kindle fire and gasoline too close to a heat source were the leading factors contributing to ignition in home gasoline structure fires.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Keep gasoline out of children's sight and reach. Children should never handle gasoline.
- If fire does start while handling gasoline, do not attempt to extinguish the fire or stop the flow of gasoline. Leave the area immediately and call for help.
- Do not use or store gasoline near possible ignition sources
- Store gasoline outside the home in a tightly closed metal or plastic container approved by an independent testing laboratory or the local or state fire authorities. Never store gasoline in glass containers or non-reusable plastic containers.
- Store only enough gasoline necessary to power equipment and let machinery cool before refueling it.
- Never use gasoline inside the home or as a cleaning agent.
- Clean up spills and discard clean-up materials properly.
- Do not smoke when handling gasoline.
- Never use gasoline in place of kerosene
- Use caution when fueling automobiles. Do not get in and out of cars when fueling. Although rare, an electrical charge on your body could spark a fire, especially during the dry winter months.
- Only fill portable gasoline containers outdoors.
- Follow all manufacturers instructions when using electronic devices near gasoline.

PROPANE SAFETY

SAFETY TIPS:

- Handle any propane-powered equipment cautiously and always follow the manufacturer's instructions
- Cylinder tanks for equipment such as stoves and ovens must be located outside the home.
- Never store or use propane gas cylinders larger than one pound inside the home.
- Never operate a propane powered gas grill inside the home
- Have propane gas equipment inspected periodically by a professional for possible leaks or malfunctioning parts.
- Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions when lighting a pilot.
- If you smell a strong odor of gas, leave the area immediately and call the fire department from outside the home.

