

**Important Notice To All Residents**

**NATURAL GAS**, like all forms of energy must be used properly.

Here are some facts everyone should know about **GAS AND GAS OPERATED** equipment from a safety point of view.

**GAS ACCIDENTS** can be avoided ... when you follow these **SAFETY RULES**.

1. **TEACH CHILDREN** that they are not to turn on or light appliances.
2. **KEEP COMBUSTIBLES** (curtains, paper, fluids, etc.) away from open flame.
3. **IF LIGHTING IS REQUIRED** always light match first and hold it at point of lighting before you turn on the gas.
4. **REPAIR AND INSTALLATION** is a job for experts – **NEVER** attempt to do it yourself.
5. **USE EQUIPMENT FOR THE JOB** it was designed to do – for example – an oven must not be used to heat a room.

Gas appliances, equipment and transmission lines are safe and are constantly being tested and improved. However, it is possible, to have a **GAS LEAK**. Your senses can help you discover a gas leak...

1. **SMELL** – A distinctive odor has been added to natural gas so that less than 1% of gas in the air can be detected.
2. **SIGHT** – In some appliances you can **SEE** the flame so you know it is working.
3. **TOUCH** – With some appliances you can feel overheating or cold in the burner area which would indicate trouble.
4. **HEARING** – If the flame sounds unusually noisy it may not be burning properly.

**IF YOU SUSPECT A GAS LEAK...**

1. **AVOID FLAME** and operating of electrical equipment. Never light a gas appliance if an odor of gas is present.
2. If odor is **EXTREMELY STRONG** evacuate the building ... call for help from a neighbor's home.
3. **HAVE A QUALIFIED PERSON** turn the gas back on and relight appliances.

**REMEMBER...** Natural gas is not dangerous but its misuse is.

**TEACH YOUR CHILDREN...** to respect gas...to play it safe...to know what to do in an emergency.

**KNOWLEDGE** plus **CARE** equals **SAFETY**.

**THE PLACE TO CALL: HAGERSTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
MAINTENANCE OFFICE..... (301) 733-6916. *Calls are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*