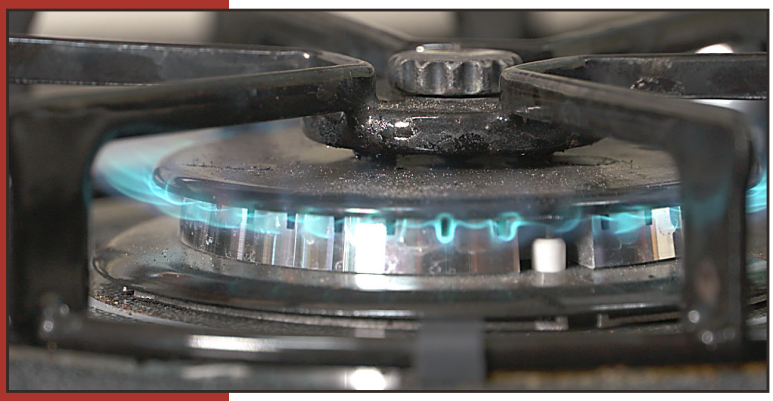
CLASS RESOURCE

LP SYSTEM KNOW-HOW

If You Smell Propane



Liquid Propane (LP) by nature is odorless so an agent called ethyl mercaptan is added to give it a rotten egg smell for early leak detection. Most RVs also have an LP Leak Detector located in a lower cabinet, typically in the kitchen or living room area.

It is a good idea to test your sense of smell to verify you can identify the propane. Some people have a difficult time recognizing the smell due to age or alcohol and tobacco use. Visit your local propane distributor and get a scratch and sniff pamphlet to help recognize the odor.

If you smell propane or have a leak detector alarm go off, use the following procedures:

- Immediately put out all smoking materials or any open flame. Do not attempt to operate lights, cell phones, or any appliance. Get out of the vehicle.
- Locate the LP tank or cylinder and shut off the valve. NOTE: Some vehicles have two DOT cylinders, with 5th wheel units having one on each side of the rig. Shut off both cylinders!
- Report the incident with the campground management if applicable. They will have phone numbers for emergency assistance if necessary, as well as local certified technicians.
- Do not re-enter the rig or attempt to use any of the appliances until the unit has been thoroughly inspected and cleared by a certified technician.