



Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

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PROPANE TANK HEATERS

The following are general requirements and guidelines pertaining to the use of Propane Tank Heaters in the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. Please make sure all heaters are in compliance with the 2013 Editions of the California Building Code (CBC) and California Fire Code (CFC), along with NFPA 58- Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code.

General Requirements

- Heaters shall display a U.L. listing number or other nationally recognized standard. (CFC 603.4.2.2.1)
- Heaters shall be used in **open-air areas only**. Indoor use is not permitted. (CFC 603.4.2.1.1)
- Heaters shall be equipped with a safety tilt shut-off switch. (CFC 603.4.2.2.3)
- Heaters shall be set upon a firm and level foundation.
- Permit shall be kept on site at all times. (CFC 105.1, 105.6.27)

Specific Use Requirements

- Placement of heater(s) **shall not** be closer than 5 feet from any building. (CFC 603.4.2.1.2)
- Heaters **shall not** be located within 5 feet of exits or exit discharges. (CFC 603.4.2.1.4)
- Heaters **shall not** be located within 5 feet of any combustible material (CFC 603.4.2.1.3)
- Heaters **shall not** be stored or used within any structure. (CFC 603.4.2.3.4)
- The storage of **spare** cylinders is **not allowed**. (CFC 603.4.2.3.4)

Safety Rules

In the event that a gas leak should occur, take the following steps:

1. Immediately shut-off the gas valve.
2. Never test for a leak using an open flame. Use soapy water.
3. Eliminate all possible sources of ignition.
4. Should the leak continue, contact the non-emergency dispatch center at (858) 756-3006.

This is not an all-inclusive list of the requirements of the use of portable heaters. Special conditions may apply based on the details of the particular application and/or intended use. Contact the Fire Prevention Bureau for further details at (858) 756-5971.

