

# Gas Meter Safety



Keep your meter clear of ice and snow. Make sure your meter is visible at all times and accessible for maintenance and emergency responders (Sun Peaks Utilities' work crews, meter readers, and firefighters). Make sure that you and your family know where your gas meter's shut off valve is (normally located at your meter) and how to turn your meter off. Do not tie your pets to your meter or gas piping. Do not attach or chain objects (such as barbecues or bicycles) to your meter or gas piping. Do not enclose your meter in any way (with an addition to your home, sundeck, or building over the gas lines).

## Winter-wise meter safety tips:

Your outdoor gas meter and equipment are designed to withstand winter weather conditions, but heavy or hard-packed snow and ice, icicles falling from your eaves, and water dripping from your roof and freezing on your meter can present a safety hazard. To avoid problems:

### 1. Keep your meter clear of snow and ice

Never let snow completely cover your meter. Do not shovel snow up against your meter take care in using a snow blower or plow near your meter. **NEVER kick or hit the gas meter** or its piping to break away built-up snow or ice.

*If you feel there is a potential problem, please call Sun Peaks Utilities at 250-578-5490 during office hours or 250-319-0629 after hours.*

### 2. Keep your eaves troughs clear

Ice hanging from your eaves trough, water dripping from your roof, or freezing rain can create an icy build-up on your gas meter and connections. Remove icicles from overhangs and protect your meter from dripping water which would freeze on meter piping

### 3. Keep air supply ducts and vents clear

Gas equipment requires air for safe combustion and venting of appliances. Know where your air supply ducts are and keep them free of snow and ice. Check that your chimney or roof vent is clear some direct vent and high efficiency appliances have side wall vents and air intakes - ensure these vents are unobstructed

## *Why is it so important to keep your meter clear?*

Accumulated snow places stress on your meter piping - damage to the piping can cause a gas leak. In case of emergency, emergency response crews need clear access to your meter blocked regulator vents may result in abnormal pressure, affect appliance operation, and interrupt service.

## *How to turn off your meter*

You can turn your gas off at the main shut-off valve on the inlet pipe next to your gas meter.

Using a wrench or other suitable tool, give the valve a quarter turn in either direction so that it is crosswise to the pipe (see diagram).

**Caution!** Once the gas is shut off at the meter, DON'T try to turn it back on. Only a certified gas technician can turn the gas on safely. Call Sun Peaks Utilities or any qualified gas fitter to restore gas service.

