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Bayou Quick Stop

June 2020

E-Newsletter

Summer is Officially Here!

We don't want to jinx it but the summer weather has been pretty mild so far this season! We know temperatures have been hot but the humidity has not been as high as normal for our state and region which has made the weather tolerable and, in some cases, enjoyable. The Farmer's Almanac has predicted sweltering and showery weather for the south central part of the United States for 2020. With the enjoyable spring we've just experienced, here's to hoping this summer is one for the books as well!

Even though we haven't been able to meet or gather in person for the past few months, we appreciate everyone who has joined in on our last two board of directors meetings via phone or video call. During this unusual time, we are working hard to keep the lines of communication as open as possible. Everyone's participation, feedback and voice is welcome and needed.

Louisiana is currently in Phase Two and will remain in that phase until at least July 24. Governor Edwards extended the original Phase Two order for an additional 28 days on June 22 after a spike in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations over the past couple of weeks. Because propane is essential, most companies have been operating the whole time in some way or another with restrictive guidelines in place for safety and health. This is your friendly reminder to stay vigilant with safety measures for your company. It's critical to slow down the spread of COVID-19. We encourage you to keep doing what you're doing to keep customers and employees safe during this time! Now, is not the time to let up. You know the drill!

The LPGA offices are open and back to regular in-office hours. We are dedicated to helping you however we can and operating as normal as possible. We are sending industry information and updates from NPGA, PERC and the state of Louisiana regarding COVID-19 regulations and guidelines as much as possible. Please remember to check your emails regularly as this is the most efficient method of communication.

For any questions, concerns or additional information, please contact the LPGA office at 225-763-8922 or at marica@ccilouisiana.com.

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 Ferrellgas
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 Gas Lane
 G&E Seafood
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 HRM Inc.
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 Usama Services Inc.
 Wesco Gas & Welding Supply Inc.
 Xtreme Hardware
 Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park
 Zachary Lumber & Hardware LLC

2020 Calendar of Events

July 8, 2 pm (EST): Let's Talk: Propane Autogas for Your Fleet webinar with Roush CleanTech and PERC.

July 26-30: *CANCELLED* Louisiana Sheriffs' and Wardens' Annual Conference, Hilton Sandestin.

August 13-15: *CANCELLED* Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association of Louisiana Annual Convention, Pontchartrain Center.

August 20-21: *POSTPONED* PERC Can-Do Marketing Conference, Marquette Hotel-Minneapolis.

September-TBD: Third Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Best Western-Alexandria.

December-TBD: Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Chateau Saint Denis Hotel-Natchitoches.

December 15-17: Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Weekend, Natchitoches.

Give us a call...
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New, Expanded Weather Safety Outreach Resources

Mother Nature can unleash her fury in just a few devastating moments. By taking a few simple propane-related safety precautions, your customers can reduce the potential for property loss and personal injury.

As the third storm of this year's hurricane season makes landfall, PERC has prepared a host of updated weather safety resources to share with customers to keep their families safe before, during, and after a destructive storm.

Marketers can get all of these weather safety tips, flyers, and videos from a new landing page on propane.com. The website contains resources for hurricanes, wildfires, floods, tornadoes, and winter storms with links to additional resources in the catalog.



Summer Grilling, the Safe and Tasty Way!

By: Anna Ball, LPGA Staffer

Nothing says Louisiana summer like a backyard barbecue. Whether you are hanging out with your friends and family by the pool, in your backyard or at a park, BBQ's are a summer must-have. However, with the great memories outdoor grilling creates, you do not want to make it memorable for the wrong reasons. In order to avoid a BBQ blaze, here are a few propane grilling tips:

Propane Grilling Do's:

1. Outdoor grilling should always be done in a well-ventilated area. Make sure you follow all of the instructions the manufacturer provides and keep all manuals and materials in an accessible place.
2. Make sure the grill burner controls are turned off and keep the cylinder valve fully closed when not in use.
3. Make sure the gas grill is shut off and completely cooled before covering it after use.
4. Make sure to always store cylinders in an upright, vertical position. Be sure to store them outdoors away from any source of ignition.
5. After refiling your cylinders, make sure to take them home immediately. Also ensure that while transporting, keep the vehicle ventilated with the cylinder valve closed and plugged/capped.
6. Whenever a grill is not in use, cover the disconnected hose-end fitting caps from the propane gas retailer to keep out dirt, insects, and moisture.
7. Make sure that before lighting a propane gas grill burner, test the gas fittings for leaks. The NFPA explains this leak detection solution:
"Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill."

Propane Grilling Don'ts:

1. Do not bring cylinders indoors or into an enclosed space such as a garage.
2. Do not smoke while handling the propane cylinder.
3. Do not leave the cylinder in a vehicle.
4. Do not use matches or lighters to check for leaks.
5. Do not allow children to tamper or play with the cylinder or grill.

6. Do not use, store, or transport a cylinder where it could be exposed to high temperatures (this includes storing spare cylinders under or near the grill).

We hope these tips makes it easier for your and your family to stay safe while enjoying some delicious barbeque during the summer season.



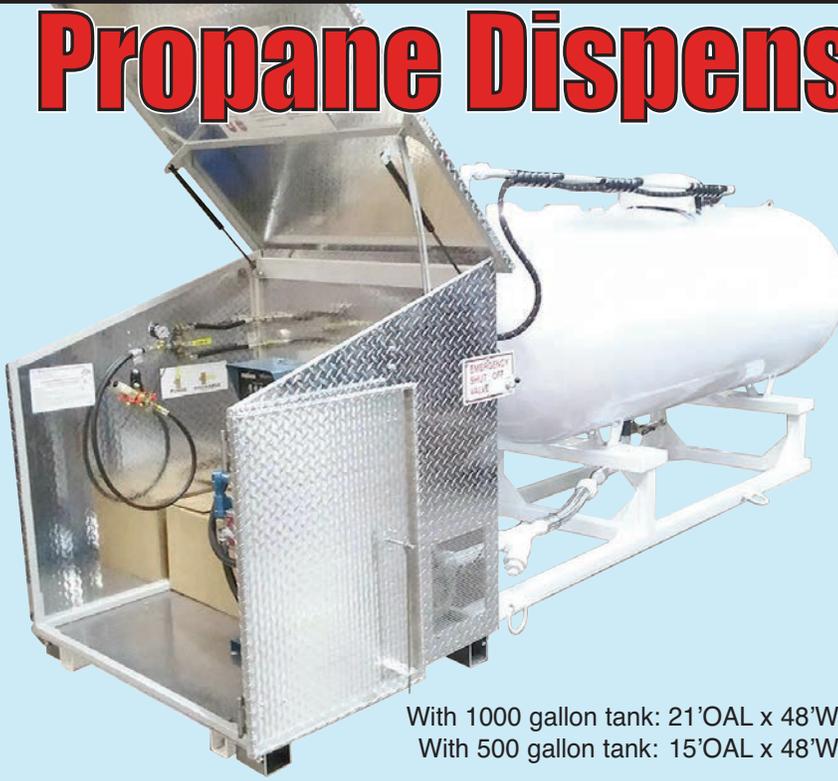
PHMSA Extends Enforcement Policy Regarding Recurrent Training

On June 24, DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) announced it is extending its enforcement policy regarding training requirements. Specifically, the agency will not take enforcement action against a hazmat offeror or carrier who is unable to provide recurrent training in accordance with the existing hazmat regulations. The new policy has been extended to October 31, 2020.

PHMSA took this action noting that many companies who offer hazardous materials continue to experience difficulty in obtaining or providing recurrent training to their employees due to the changes in business practices that have resulted from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The previous policy was scheduled to expire June 24.

The notice of this extension is limited to recurrent training requirements only that are found in 49 CFR 172.704(c)(2). Click here to view the full PHMSA Notice of Extension: <https://tinyurl.com/ycscgwg>.

Propane Dispensing System



The Total Package PDS-DCL51DP

- Tank mounted to fully welded support base with D-ring lifting lugs
- Integrated with pre-assembled dispenser cabinet
- Cabinet is pre-plumbed with pump, motor, bypass and meter
- One step installation with a single electrical connection
- Any GEC dispenser cabinet can be integrated with the fully welded support base
- Custom configurations available upon request

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With 500 gallon tank: 15'OAL x 48'W x 5'H & Weighs 1,850 lbs



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Tracy Wells



Congratulations to the new 2020 Miss Louisiana-Courtney Hammons! She was crowned during a virtual press conference on June 16th. Our Executive Director, Randy Hayden, and the LA Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Executive Director, John Alario, were on hand for the occasion to represent the Louisiana Propane Dealers. The Louisiana Propane Dealers are proud to be sponsors of the Miss Louisiana Organization.

Congratulations to the 2020-2021 Board of Directors

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Ralph Poole, Bergquist, Inc.

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Al Cadwallader, Southern LP Gas

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Jerry McCain, LacoX

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Dominique Monlezun, Lake Arthur Butane Co.

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Neil Wise, O'Nealgas (Wise Choice Investments)

Southern At-Large Director

John McManus, ReedGas Propane



Propane Autogas Benefits You May Not Know



By: Todd Mouw, President of ROUSH Clean Tech

The most notable benefits to switching to propane autogas include decreasing both emissions and fleet cost. As an alternative fuel, it's known that vehicles that run on propane emit fewer harmful emissions than conventional fuels. It's

also known that propane autogas costs less and lowers maintenance costs. Yet, what often gets overlooked is the impact on human health, how safe propane vehicles are, and their energy security.

Human Health Improved

When a fleet uses propane vehicles, they're investing in the health of its drivers and the communities in which they drive. Propane vehicles lower the amount of nitrogen oxides (NOx) emitted into the air. By reducing NOx, fleets are preventing health problems, such as asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory issues. Additionally, there are no strong-smelling fumes and noise levels are reduced compared to diesel, allowing drivers to focus more on the road ahead.

Safety Built In

Not only are propane vehicles clean, but they are safe. Fuel tanks, which are constructed from carbon steel in compliance with ASME, are 20 times more puncture-resistant than gasoline or diesel tanks. Propane is part of a close-looped system, meaning the fuel is never exposed to air and won't spill. And, weather doesn't impact how propane vehicles run operating reliably in all weather conditions, from the hottest days to as cold as -40 degrees or more. The ROUSH CleanTech system is also designed with a thermal management feature. If the system is exposed to extreme heat due to the result of an accident or another cause, it adjusts to a vent cycle to manage pressure and prevent tank integrity from being compromised.

Energy Security Included

When a fleet uses propane, it's relying on an established fuel system, providing security for its business. Right now, there are more than 27 million propane vehicles across the globe. About 200,000 of them are in the U.S. The nation has thousands of public fueling stations. More than 90 percent of the United States' propane supply is produced domestically, making it a stable and readily available option.

Propane vehicles offer deep benefits to better our communities. They can improve human health, provide a safe ride for drivers and deliver energy security for fleet operators.

To learn more about ROUSH CleanTech's advanced clean transportation solutions, please visit ROUSHcleantech.com.



Todd Mouw is president of ROUSH CleanTech, an industry leader of alternative fuel vehicle technology. Mouw has more than two decades of experience in the automotive and high-tech industries. As former president of the NTEA Green Truck Association, Mouw helped set standards in the green trucking industry. To learn more, visit ROUSHcleantech.com.

LPG Spotlight: Lake Arthur Butane & Propane

By: Carly McFadden



When Hurricane Rita hit southwest Louisiana in September 2005, propane retailer Lake Arthur Butane & Propane had to think fast.

Hurricane Rita was one of the strongest hurricanes ever recorded in the Atlantic Ocean, with top sustained winds of 175 mph, according to the National Weather Service.

The hurricane made landfall in eastern Texas and western Louisiana, bringing winds, rain and tornadoes to communities stretching from Texas to Florida, according to the Florida Institute of Technology.

Lake Arthur Butane & Propane, founded in 1945, has two locations in southwest Louisiana, and its communities were directly impacted by Hurricane Rita. When Louisiana got news of a Category 5 hurricane forming in the Gulf of Mexico, the propane retailer got straight to work.

In the days preceding landfall, Louisiana rice farmers were desperately trying to harvest and dry their crops. Dominique Monlezun, company owner and president, says that his employees worked long days and through one entire night to service the farmers' grain bins.

When the hurricane hit, employees were working extremely long hours. Not only were they servicing customers whose electricity had gone out, but their own houses had no power, either. As a result, their houses were hot, leaving them with little ability to rest before their next shifts.

Monlezun says some employees' families had evacuated their homes, so his employees were not only fatigued

and anxious, but unable to communicate with their loved ones.

In the aftermath, Monlezun developed a plan to ease the fatigue, anxiety and communication problems in the case of future hurricanes.

"We lived through a lot of changes rapidly hour to hour," Monlezun says. "It got me thinking about how we were not prepared for a disaster like that. After working closely with the staff and our employees, we developed a program in case – God forbid – that happens again." Fifteen years later, Monlezun and his staff feel much more prepared.

Monlezun, whose father founded the company, sat down with each employee, listened to their concerns and took notes.

"My dad always told me to go to the people who do it every day and get their opinions, the drivers and servicemen, and you'll get a whole new perspective," he says.

Monlezun says one of the biggest challenges during hurricane season is not knowing the exact route a hurricane will take, so it's important to be prepared at all times.

When there is news of a hurricane forming in the Gulf, drivers are now instructed to take their trucks home with them. Each driver has designated service routes to reach customers in case communications are interrupted by the storm.

The retailer's trucks run on diesel, so Monlezun ensured that diesel tanks with battery-operated pumps were placed throughout the area, in case drivers needed to fill up while on a route.

"I wanted to get away from electricity and still be able to function," Monlezun says.

Monlezun says the biggest thing he has learned from the experience is to be understanding with his employees.

"As I was sitting down with those employees, I needed to take a step back and be mindful that their being was not 100 percent in my office. Half of themselves were with their families," Monlezun says. "I learned a lot of

patience from that.”

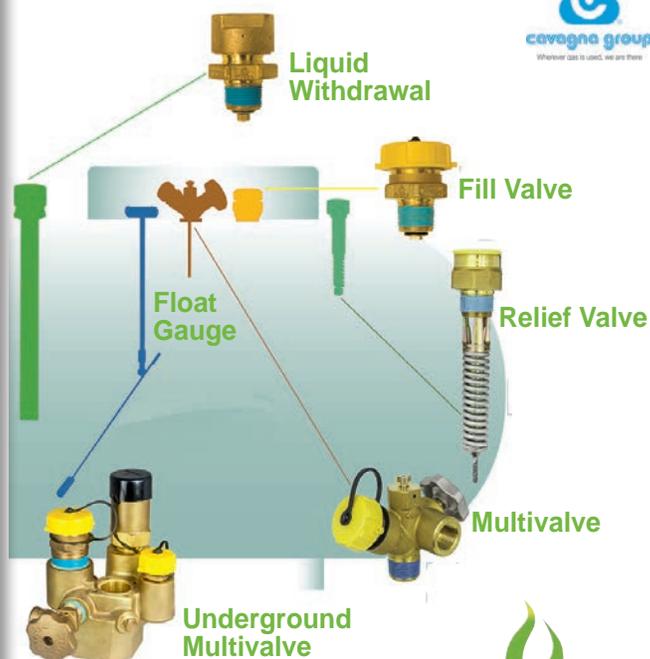
For other retailers who are preparing for the 2020 hurricane season, Monlezun encourages owners to communicate not only with their drivers, but also their suppliers and vendors. He also advises to assess what has gone wrong in past seasons and prevent it from happening again.

“It takes time. You can’t do it overnight,” Monlezun says. “I just started taking notes on what we were doing wrong. We all make mistakes; I just don’t want to make them a second time. That’s the way you improve – you adjust and change.”

This article was originally published on June 8, 2020 in LP Gas Magazine and can be viewed online here: <https://www.lpgasmagazine.com/lpg-spotlight-lake-arthur-butane-propane/>

Carly McFadden is associate editor at LP Gas Magazine. She is a graduate of Ohio University’s E.W. Scripps School of Journalism and a native of Cleveland, Ohio. McFadden can be reached at cmcfadden@northcoastmedia.net.

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