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Quality Steel  
Rego Products  
Tarantin Industries, Inc.  
Targa Resources  
Terravest Industries

August 2023

# E-Newsletter

## Back to School!

And just like that, summer is over (at least for the kids) and school is back in session! It always seems like the summer break is not quite long enough. You don't have to worry about the high temps and sunny weather going anywhere any time soon though. With multiple days and weeks of record high temps and humidity through the roof, most will be happy to kiss this summer good-bye when we can finally turn the corner and get to some cooler weather! But it'll be a while before that!

With the start of school also comes the start of football! With the start of football comes tailgating and with tailgating comes...propane? That's right! Propane is the quintessential tailgate supply as it can be used for a plethora of things to keep your tailgate running smoothly. Propane can provide you with cooking fuel for the grill or burner whether you're frying fish, boiling shrimp or cooking a jambalaya. It can also be a source of fuel for the all-important generator that can power the TVs, music, crock pots (to keep the food warm), fans and much more! In the winter or cooler weather, don't overlook propane patio heaters as a way to keep your spot nice and cozy. Believe me, your friends will appreciate it! As a reminder, never use propane appliances under a covered area. It is best to use them out in the open and where there is ample space. Make sure hoses and tanks are clear of walkways as well. Propane can bring the party to life but we want to make sure it's done safely. No one likes a party pooper!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the LPGA office at 225-763-8922.



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The Fruit Stand, Inc.  
The Robberson Thib's  
Tickfaw Pit Stop  
Vidrine & Vidrine LLC  
Whitehall Mall LLC  
Wilderness Acres  
Xtreme Hardware

## 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

**September 2023:** Third Quarter Board Meeting, Date & Location TBD.

**October 7, 2023:** National Propane Day.

**November 26, 2023, 6-9pm:** LCF Annual Clean Fuel Leaders Awards, LSU Center for River Studies-Baton Rouge.

**December 2023:** Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Date & Location TBD.

**December 5, 2023:** Resilience Summit, The Estruary-Baton Rouge.

**December 6-7, 2023:** 2023 Leadership Summit, Courtyard Washington Downtown Convention Center Hotel-Washington, DC.

**March 2024:** First Quarter Board Meeting, Date & Location TBD.

**April 5-7, 2024:** Southeastern Convention & International Propane Expo, Charlotte Convention Center-Charlotte, NC.

**June 24-26, 2024:** APGA/LPGA Summer Convention, Hilton Hotel-Pensacola Beach, FL

**June 25, 2024:** Second Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Hilton Hotel-Pensacola Beach, FL.

## Technical School Grant Program Application Opens Sept 1!

For the third year, PERC is offering up to \$10,000 to educational institutions or career centers in the United States that are willing and able to expand their HVAC or plumbing classroom lab and curriculum to include propane specific material and hands on resources. Applications for the Technical School Grant Program (TSGP) open Friday, September 1, 2023.

Each awarded school must appoint a Propane Advisor. The Advisor's role is to not only make sure the appliances and equipment are installed correctly, but also to build a relationship with the school and the next generation of propane professionals. They can offer their unique perspectives to help educate students about propane applications and the career opportunities that propane can offer.

Reach out to the local schools in your area that you think would benefit from implementing a propane specific program and encourage them to apply! Become their Propane Advisor to ensure a successful implementation and continuation of the curriculum and equipment.

For more information on the requirements of being a Propane Advisor, explore the Participant Commitment tab on the Technical School Grant Program page. Please contact Elena Bennett at PERC with questions at [elena.bennett@propane.com](mailto:elena.bennett@propane.com).

# Hurricane Safety and Preparedness

In Louisiana, we are no stranger to the threat of tropical storms and hurricanes. Nonetheless, it is always important to make sure you are prepared for all possibilities and review the best ways to stay safe. There are a few key things to consider to keep your family and home as safe as possible before, during and after a storm. Just follow the tips below and contact your local propane supplier if your propane system ever gets damaged.

## **CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN**

Work with your family to create a plan in the event of a hurricane. As part of this effort, make sure to post contact information for emergency services and utility companies—including your local propane supplier. You should also post instructions for turning off your propane, electricity, and water. (If you turn off your propane, contact a service technician to inspect your system before turning it back on.)

## **ANCHOR YOUR TANK**

In flood zone areas, large propane tanks should be anchored securely to avoid potentially dangerous situations. This is required by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA). Your propane supplier can determine if and how anchoring your tank should be done.

## **PLAN FOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Keep a battery-powered radio handy, so you always have a way to receive updates on weather conditions. As storms approach, it's also smart to charge up your smartphones, so you have an additional tool for communication through a long power outage. Or, consider purchasing a propane generator so you always have reliable power, even during blackouts.

## **INSPECT DAMAGE CAUTIOUSLY**

If a storm causes harm to your property, be careful when you assess damage as downed power lines, damaged gas lines, and dislodged propane tanks can lead to dangerous situations. In the dark, use a flashlight instead of candles to avoid combustion in the case of a leak, and never inspect appliances while standing in water.

## **IF YOU SENSE DANGER, CALL THE EXPERTS**

Your utility company, fire department, and propane supplier have expert training, and should handle any potentially dangerous situations with your home's systems. Additionally, if a storm damages your property,

it's a good idea to have a qualified service technician perform a complete inspection of your propane system, to ensure no harmful damage was done.

Taking these steps can help promote safety all year long but especially during hurricane and storm season.

By planning in advance, you and your family can be prepared for any severe weather coming your way and it will leave you with peace of mind.

For more information, please visit: [Propane.com](http://Propane.com).



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# Plan Now to Prepare for Winter's Worst Challenges

Even as the nation contends with searing heatwaves of historical proportions, summer will soon turn to fall and bring chilly November blasts. That means now is the time to prepare for the hectic winter heating season ahead.

The arrival of our first El Niño weather system since 2019 is likely to impact weather patterns in the late fall and winter, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a division of the National Weather Service.

The northern parts of the U.S. can expect to see drier and warmer conditions that can cause drought and wildfires, while the Southern U.S. and Gulf Coast regions can see wetter conditions that may result in flooding. El Niño can suppress hurricane activity in the Atlantic Ocean but increase the likelihood of hurricanes in the Pacific Basin.

Early forecasts are projecting above-average temperatures in the West and Northwest, but below average across the Central and Eastern regions, the Great Lakes, and the Ohio Valley. Above-average snowfall and likelihood of blizzards are forecast across the East and Northeast.

As a whole, industry supply is well positioned going into the crop drying season and the winter draw. That should help marketers assess storage and firm up supply contracts that provide maximum flexibility against the unknown.

Domestic propane stock builds are well above the five-year average. Projected storage carries until at least the first quarter of 2024 likewise appear strong. The heightened pace of U.S. exports is expected to remain strong into the winter months.

Meanwhile, USDA crop report numbers are up 6 percent from 2022 levels, the third- highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944. Despite the large amount of corn acres planted, moderate to severe drought conditions across much of the country continue to impact corn development. Should the weather normalize, we could see a large crop harvest.

Propane marketers can effectively estimate local dryer demand as the harvest season approaches using PERC's ***Grain Drying Demand Models***. The online tool provides

real-time data to show how current corn moisture levels compare to past years, helping you predict the propane needs for farmers in your area.

Last winter was relatively free of supply disruptions. But given the uncertainties of pipeline, rail and truck distribution during a typical winter, marketers are advised to plan for both the expected and unexpected. Arrange both a primary and backup supplier. Identify multiple supply points in case one is somehow compromised.

Given the additional challenges of industry-wide driver shortages – and the new emergency driver training requirements that extend the time it takes to onboard new hires – early fills of customer tanks are more critical than ever. Fill tertiary storage early and often while pipeline capacity is available and demand is calm. Remember, pipeline infrastructure is not intended to be the sole source of supply during peak demand.

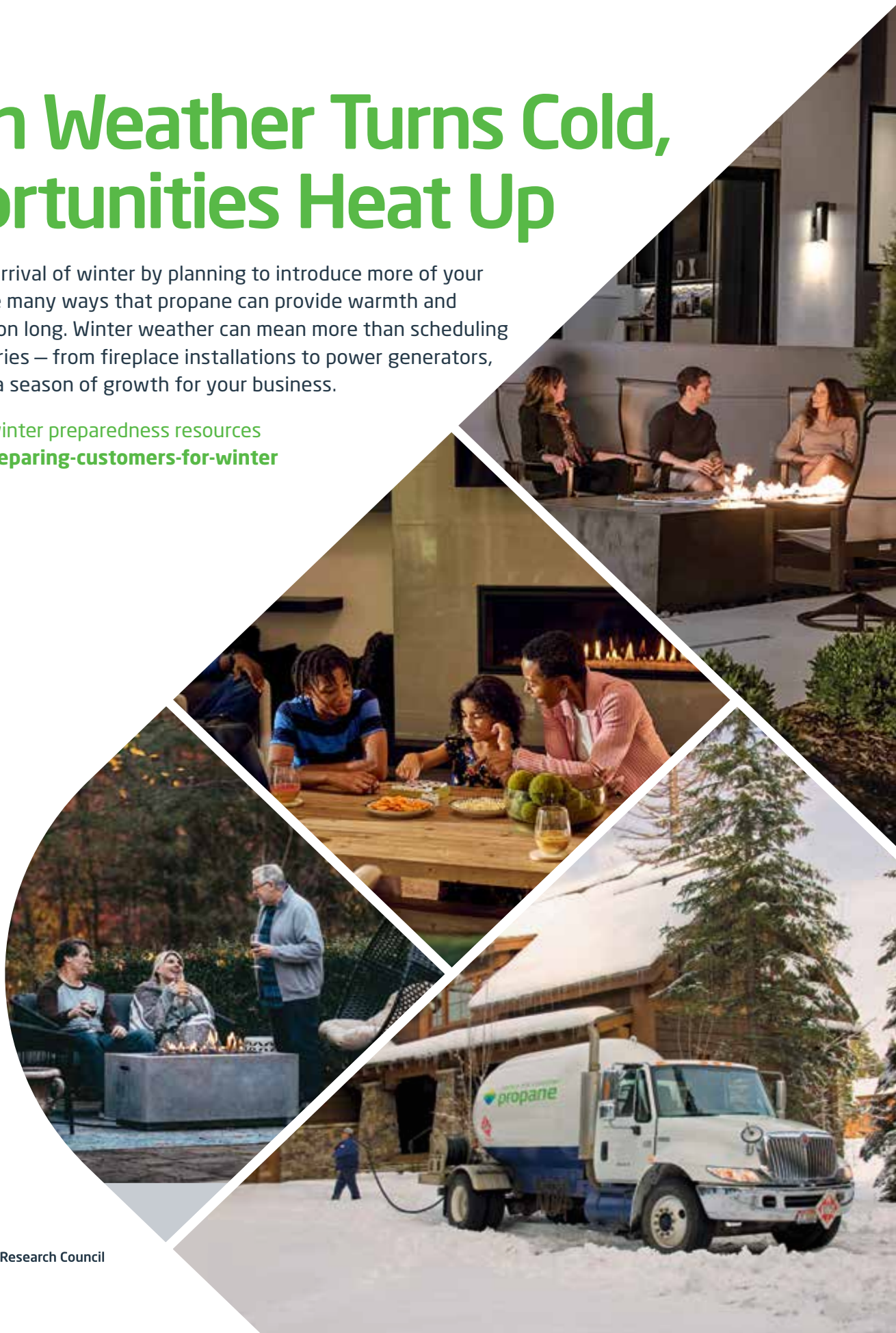
Now is the time to communicate with customers about the best early fill strategies. Let them know how and when to contact you using PERC's free, downloadable outreach materials on [propane.com](https://propane.com).



# When Weather Turns Cold, Opportunities Heat Up

Prepare for the arrival of winter by planning to introduce more of your customers to the many ways that propane can provide warmth and comfort, all season long. Winter weather can mean more than scheduling additional deliveries – from fireplace installations to power generators, you can make it a season of growth for your business.

Download your winter preparedness resources  
[propane.com/preparing-customers-for-winter](https://propane.com/preparing-customers-for-winter)





# Use LP and Save a Tree!

Space heating is, by far, the most energy intensive application in an American household. And space heating gallons provide the bedrock demand that many propane dealers rely on. For households located beyond the reach of natural gas infrastructure, one such space heating competitor that LPG marketers too often overlook is wood.

Nationally, wood is the primary heating fuel in 2.3 million households. Collectively, these homes burn 191.3 trillion Btus worth of wood annually, or the energy equivalent of 2 billion gallons of propane. Wood stoves are found throughout the U.S., but are especially popular in the West and South.

Burning wood, however, is not all it's cracked up to be. Wood smoke contains high levels of particulate matter that can negatively affect our respiratory and cardiovascular systems and degrades local air quality. Burning propane instead of wood prevents deforestation and a reduction in woody habitat for flora and fauna. And trees, of course, give off oxygen. But they also act as natural carbon sinks and absorb CO2 directly from the

air. In fact, trees pioneered the art of direct air capture. In addition, these magical plants play a vital role in storing excess water and act as natural water filters as well. And the list goes on...

Trees are amazing. They are incredibly valuable to the planet and humanity. And without question, if propane was not an energy option in the marketplace, more households would burn trees to keep warm during the heating season. So, to sum it up: Use LP and Save a Tree! For more information, contact NPGA's Director of State Affairs, Jacob Peterson, at [jpeterson@npga.org](mailto:jpeterson@npga.org).



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Tracy Wells

# A New Dawn for Sustainable Energy: Turning CO<sub>2</sub> into Propane

A recent leap in chemical innovation emerges as a beacon of progress for the propane industry. Spearheaded by visionary researchers at the Illinois Institute of Technology (ITT), this breakthrough ushers in an era that promises to amplify the already remarkable contributions of the propane industry to the global energy landscape.

At the heart of this transformation lies the innovative capacity to harness carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and transmute it into propane—a milestone that has eluded the scientific community for years. This watershed discovery embodies the spirit of ingenuity that is required to navigate the complex web of energy production and environmental sustainability.

Amid the imperative to combat climate change and transition to sustainable energy, the goal to convert CO<sub>2</sub> into larger, valuable molecules such as propane takes center stage. This pursuit aligns with the global mission to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and catalyze a shift towards sustainable energy sources. For decades, scientists have been on a quest to unlock the secrets of CO<sub>2</sub> conversion, and ITT's breakthrough is a monumental leap towards realizing this vision.

The researchers at ITT have transcended conventional wisdom. While traditional approaches explored metal oxide-based catalysts for CO<sub>2</sub> conversion, these endeavors often stumbled upon roadblocks, including catalyst deactivation and a lack of selectivity, or the ability to narrow production to a single molecule, such as propane. ITT's brilliant approach embraces an unconventional methodology grounded in the utilization of economically viable materials. This innovative strategy, coupled with a shift to continuous processing, enhances efficiency and opens the doors to scalability—an indispensable facet of any solution aiming to reshape entire industries.

*The Catalyst for Change: Molybdenum, Phosphorus, and Carbon*

Central to the transformational process are the precisely engineered particles constructed from molybdenum (Mo), phosphorus (P), and carbon (C). This triad of elements forms the backbone upon which the conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> into propane rests. However, the

complexity doesn't stop there. The incorporation of imidazolium-based ionic liquids introduces a layer of intricacy that amplifies the selectivity of the catalytic process. This strategic integration guides the reaction toward the coveted output of propane, ensuring that the conversion process is both efficient and focused.

The significance of ITT's breakthrough reverberates far beyond its laboratory confines. The conversion of CO<sub>2</sub>, a notorious greenhouse gas, into a valuable energy source like propane carries the potential to simultaneously reduce emissions and advance energy access. With sustainability at its core, this breakthrough speaks to a future where energy production and environmental preservation go hand-in-hand. In essence, a circular renewable hydrocarbon process has been discovered that can ensure the viability of propane into the future.

*Charting a Course for the Future: Collaboration and Expansion*

Industry partnerships, government initiatives, and global cooperation stand to amplify the impact of this discovery. The journey to refine the technology, explore novel applications, and integrate it seamlessly into existing energy infrastructure is a collective endeavor that transcends disciplines and borders.

The discovery of turning CO<sub>2</sub> into propane stands as a testament to human innovation and determination. As the world strives for cleaner energy solutions, ITT's pioneering electrolyzer device offers a ray of hope, a tangible example of how science and technology can align with environmental aspirations. The road to a sustainable energy future is complex and multifaceted. Achievements like this highlight the propane industry's pivotal role in forging a path towards a better world for future generations.

Please contact Alex Smith, Director of Codes and Standards, at [asmith@npga.org](mailto:asmith@npga.org) with questions or to share new information.

# You Need Drivers.

[npga.org/ace](http://npga.org/ace)

Getting drivers licensed is an ongoing issue for our industry. The ACE Services Program is proven and effective at getting drivers on the road quickly, easily, and safely.

## How can ACE help my company?

The ACE Services Program guides individuals through the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements set by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

## What does ACE do?

Serving as the FMCSA Registered Training Provider, NPGA handles:

- FMCSA paperwork and filings
- FMCSA audits
- Training materials and training equipment guidance to meet FMCSA requirements

## States Benefit Too!

State/Regional associations receive 10% of ACE revenue generated by propane marketers in their state using the ACE program.



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For more information about **ACE Services** and how you can enroll your drivers, please visit [npga.org/ace](http://npga.org/ace), or contact ACE at **202-466-7203** or [eldt@npga.org](mailto:eldt@npga.org).

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# ACE Gets Drivers on the Road.

