

Resources

Local resources

A single pound of propane is equivalent to 1 stick of dynamite.. If a tank like this rolls over and explodes it could devastate your community. To add insult to injury, all the fuel you were counting on for cooking and heating just burned down your shelter, you and your neighborhood. The system shown here is an easy solution to this problem.

If you prefer not to do this work yourself you can contact a contractor to anchor your tank.

Consider the addition of a Seismic Valve that automatically shuts the propane off at the tank protecting your home and property from fire hazard AND preserving the fuel in your tank for future use.

Local contact: Dan Harvey (360) 928-3125

See Terry @Angeles Millwork as a source for all these supplies for the do-it-yourselfers, or you can contact Farrell Gas or Pioneer Propane to arrange installation.



Terry at Angeles Millwork

On Line Resources

<http://minutemanproducts.com/>

Keep Your Property Safe in an Earthquake



Secure Your Propane Tank

Propane tanks are a major cause of fires during earthquakes

Propane tanks may move, slide, or topple during heavy ground shaking and are potentially hazardous unless both the tank and the piping are properly secured and a flexible hose connection is used. Gas leaks are frequently the cause of earthquake-related fires.

Why Secure Your Tank

Even a minor quake can cause propane tanks to break free of their supporting legs. When a tank falls, there is always a danger of a fire or an explosion. Even when a tank remains on its legs, its supply line can be ruptured. Escaping gas can then cause a fire. Similar problems can occur with smaller, unsecured compressed gas cylinders stored inside a house or garage.

A fire caused by earthquake damage is a true emergency. Resources to fight fires may be spread out by a large number of fires, or access to a fire area may be limited or blocked. Water sources may be damaged



Safety First

Make sure the members of your family know how to immediately turn off the supply line at the tank and inspect for gas leak.



If you lease your equipment contact your propane provider before making modifications:

- * Provide a flexible connection between the propane tank and the supply line and where the supply line enters the house.
- * On larger tanks it is also recommended to install a seismic shutoff valve that will automatically turn off the gas during an earthquake.

These changes should be done by a licensed contractor.

How to Secure a Propane Tank

Securing small vertical tanks

For tanks under 120 gallons:

Use two lengths of strapping -- one just below the top of the cylinder and one just above the bottom.

In wooden walls attach straps to eye hooks that are long enough to penetrate not just the wall but the studs behind it as well.



In concrete or masonry block walls, the eye hooks should be installed with expansion anchors or molly bolts

Securing larger tanks

For tanks 120 – 1000 gallons:



- Straps – a minimum of 1.25” wide x 0.035 inches thick zinc coated galvanized steel
- Strap sheathing- to protect tank surface
- Adjustable anchor bolts- used to tighten steel strapping
- Either: Earth auger anchors – (3 foot- lengths recommended for our class soil)
- Or: Concrete expansion bolt anchors- to secure to concrete pads.