

NATURAL GAS SAFETY 101:

STAYING SAFE AT HOME THIS WINTER

Natural gas hazards are prevalent any time of year. But, the risk of a carbon monoxide (CO) leak, for example, increases in the winter when you're using your natural gas-fired appliances – like the furnace or fireplace.

Follow these four tips to be sure you have a safe and cozy winter:

1. Have your home heating systems, including chimneys and flues, inspected regularly.
2. Never use a gas range or stove to heat your home.
3. When not in use, always ensure your gas stove burners are in the OFF position.
4. Install a CO detector on every level of your home.

And, it's always the right time to learn how to detect a natural gas leak.



Smell

Natural gas doesn't have an odor. To help you detect a leak, we add mercaptan, an odorant that smells like rotting eggs or a skunk.



Sight

Natural gas may blow dirt, make bubbles, kill vegetation or create an area of frost on the ground in warm weather if it leaks from an underground pipe.



Sound

Natural gas can make a quiet hiss or a loud roar.



What's the difference between carbon monoxide and natural gas?

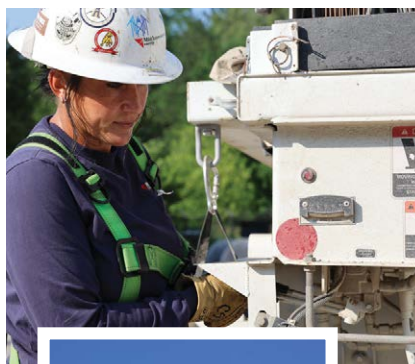
While natural gas and carbon monoxide are both colorless, odorless and harmful to humans when inhaled, they're different kinds of gases. Natural gas is extracted from underground reservoirs and provides fuel for things like furnaces, ovens and water heating. CO is produced when fuel – like natural gas, gasoline, propane and wood – is not completely combusted.



SHE'S GOT THE POWER!

Over the summer, the Oskaloosa Herald featured our employee Charmayne, who is MidAmerican Energy's FIRST female line mechanic! Charmayne started at MidAmerican 11 years ago in the customer service office. She moved to a storeroom position before deciding to take on a pre-apprentice role to become a front-line worker. Charmayne recently completed her full apprenticeship and is officially a line mechanic.

Ready to begin your own journey at MidAmerican? See our job openings at **MidAmericanEnergy.com/careers**.



MidAmerican's I CARE program helps community action agencies provide local families with financial assistance to pay their heating bills and help weatherize homes. Between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, MidAmerican customers contributed over \$144,000! For every \$1 donated, we contribute an additional 25 cents.

There are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution. You can pay an additional amount on your bill when making a payment online via My Account or by check, or make a direct contribution at **MidAmericanEnergy.com/payment-assistance**.

CONTACT f X in @ v



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Business service
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