

SECTION:	EMERGENCY PLANNING/LOSS OF SERVICES	APPROVED BY:	Director
NUMBER:	E.175	SIGNATURE:	
RESPONSIBILITY:	All Managers	DATE:	October 13, 2013
REFERENCE POLICY:		REVISED:	March 5, 2019
SUBJECT:	Code Brown – Natural Gas Leak or Hazardous Chemical Spill/Release		Page 1 of 2

POLICY

Woodingford Lodge recognizes that the potential of a natural gas leak or other substantial hazardous chemical spill/release exists. In the event of a natural gas leak or other substantial hazardous chemical spill/release the following procedures shall be implemented by the Administrator and/or the RN:

PROCEDURE

1. Evacuate all persons from the immediate area to a safe location.
2. Never attempt to stop a natural gas leak or other hazardous chemical release yourself since it may be unsafe to do so.
3. To minimize the chances of an explosion during a suspected natural gas leak:

<p>DO NOT IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF THE SUSPECTED NATURAL GAS LEAK</p>	Turn electrical equipment on or off
	Unplug anything
	Operate any electrical devices
	Use phones, including cell and portable phones
	Light a match or candle
	Smoke
	Use elevators

4. In responding to this type of emergency, all communication amongst staff must be done without the use of the emergency communication system due to the risk of explosion.
5. Open all doors and windows in the affected area to ventilate if able to do so safely.
6. Call the following contacts and notify them of the emergency:
 - a) Local Fire Department – 911
 - b) Union Gas Emergency Services – 1-877-969-0999
(if suspected natural gas leak)
 - c) Environmental Services Supervisor – 519-533-2769 or

519-421-5556 ext. #2031

d) On-call Manager if after hours

7. Designate a staff member to meet the responding Fire Department and Union Gas (if natural gas leak) at the front door. This will generally be completed by the front office staff during business hours.
8. In the event the release and/or chemical overcomes any portion of the facility and poses a risk to staff and residents the appropriate Code Green - Evacuation Procedures shall be implemented.
9. Once the situation is resolved and determined safe by the responding emergency personnel the Administrator and/or RN shall notify staff that the emergency has ended.
10. Following the incidents, the Manager or designate will complete appropriate reports and forward to the Ministry.

How to detect a natural gas leak

- **Smell**
Transmission natural gas has a stale petroleum/hydrocarbon smell. Before it is delivered to your home, natural gas has mercaptan added which gives the gas a sulphur or “rotten egg” smell to help detect leaks.
- **Sight**
Natural gas is colourless, but vapour and “ground frosting” may be visible at high pressures. A gas leak may also be indicated by bubbles in wet or flooded areas, distinct patches of dead vegetation, dust blowing from a hole in the ground or flames if the leak has ignited.
- **Sound**
A hissing or roaring noise along the right-of-way of a pipeline could also indicate a natural gas leak.

How Union Gas will respond

In the event of a natural gas emergency, the Union Gas emergency response team (1-877-969-0999) or local community authority will:

- Respond to the incident site
- Identify the source of the problem and ensure the emergency site has been cleared of anyone whose safety may be at risk
- Make the situation safe
- Advise the customer of their options with respect to the piping system or appliance repair

Source: Union Gas Limited – Natural Gas Emergencies