



PROPANE EXCHANGE

January 2009 * West Virginia Propane Gas Assn.

www.wvpropanegas.org * 703.530-9772

Thanks to this issue's advertiser:

LPG Ventures

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DATES TO REMEMBER

March 23-24, 2009	Spring Membership Mtg. Charleston, WV
April 4-6, 2009	NPGA SE Convention Atlanta, GA
June 9-10, 2009	Propane Days Washington, DC

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Wonder What You Get for Your Membership?

It is the start of a new calendar year which means that a new membership year has begun as well. A weaker economy, tight money and overall uncertainty have caused everyone to look over their expenses. Membership in the West Virginia Propane Gas Association may be one of those getting tighter security.

The current situation of limited propane causing increased transportation times and reduced propane to deliver is the major concern facing marketers and suppliers.

So how can WVPGA help? With your input describing in detail the challenges you face, your Association can and did apply on your behalf for Hours of Service relief, not just once, but twice thus far in January. These waivers are posted on the website so you and your suppliers can download and use.

Because of your membership and the financial support it represents, there is an organization that you can turn to in cases like this for help. Your dues pay for an office, a staff and presence which can contact the appropriate government entities to help out. Your membership has kept this presence for decades so we have relationships with appropriate government agencies such as Emergency Services, Fire Marshal, Weights & Measures, etc. Your membership renewal keeps a staff in place to work in tandem with neighboring states on these kinds of supply issues along with the National Propane Gas Association

WVPGA has...and is helping you now. Won't you be sure to renew your membership before the month ends? Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

Note: Dues may be paid by check, money order, Visa or MasterCard.

News Flash:

Malcolm Barrett, Chairman of the National Propane Gas Association will be speaking at the Spring Membership Meeting.

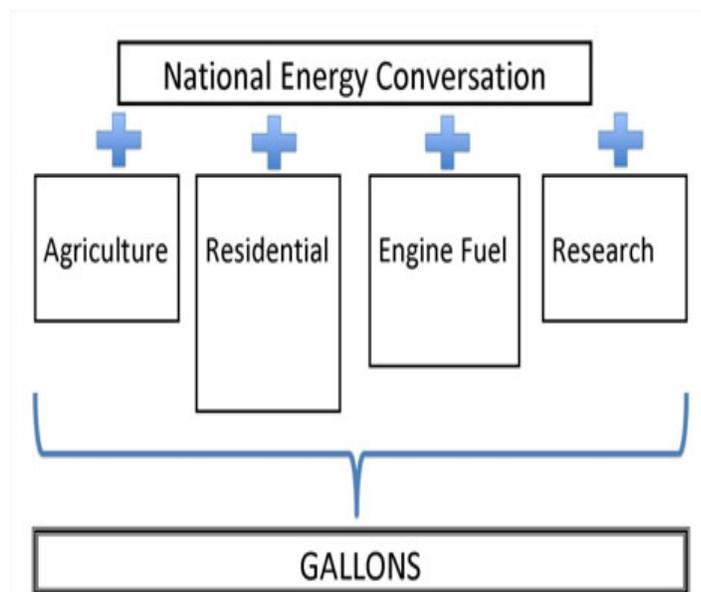
NEWS FROM PERC



\$6.2M for National Energy Conversation Initiative

The Propane Education & Research Council has approved \$6,200,000 for a new program entitled "National Energy Conversation Initiative." The approval took place at PERC's December meeting pending public comment which ended December 22nd.

According a PERC press release, "The initiative is designed to raise public awareness of the role propane can have in tackling the nation's energy and environmental challenges. "Increasing propane's visibility among people who influence energy decisions serves many industry purposes, and the initiative will help shape an umbrella message that will complement the industry's market development plans for housing, agriculture, engine fuels, etc., and lead to the sale of more gallons," said (PERC President and CEO Roy)Willis."



"In a presentation to the Council, Rick Roldan, president and chief executive of the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA), said the energy debate that is taking shape now in Washington is the most significant development in energy policy in 20 years."

Propane Industry Helps Create Guide Card for 911 Operators



"truly an illustration of the propane industry stepping up in a manner that can truly make a difference."

The propane industry has helped develop guidance for emergency 911 operators who receive reports of a propane emergency.

The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) and the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) helped the APCO Institute develop a guide card featuring questions to ask callers who report a propane emergency and safety instructions to give them. (Click [here](#) to download the card.) The APCO Institute is a subsidiary of APCO (the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials) International.

"The APCO Institute very much appreciated the expertise provided in the editing and updating of our propane emergency guide cards," said Kathy Schatel, operations manager at the APCO Institute, a nonprofit education group. "The assistance from the PERC and NPGA staffs and industry subject matter experts was invaluable in developing these cards."

The institute undertook the project on the recommendation of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, which investigated a January 2007 explosion at the Little General Store in Ghent, W.Va., and issued a report on its findings in September 2008.

Assisting in the development of the guide card "is truly an illustration of the propane industry stepping up in a manner that can truly make a difference," said Mike Walters, chairman of the PERC Safety & Training Advisory Committee.

PERC, NPGA, the West Virginia Propane Gas Association, and the National Fire Protection Association are among the organizations and agencies working to implement recommendations made by the safety board.

Tax Time is a Great Time to Sell Propane

Tell your customers about the federal tax credits for qualifying energy-efficient home improvements placed in service in 2009. According to www.energystar.gov, the eligible improvements include propane furnaces and boilers and propane tankless water heaters.

Builders are eligible for tax credits for new energy-efficient homes, and the owners and designers of energy-efficient commercial buildings are eligible for tax deductions.

Users of propane engine fuel can get tax credits, too. The National Propane Gas Association reports that a 2008 law "extended the 50-cent-per-gallon fuel tax credit through the end of 2009, and the propane refueling infrastructure tax credit through the end of 2010." Visit the association's website, www.npga.org, for details



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