OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



DEPARTMENT OF RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY

# **Guidelines for the Storage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas Cylinders**

## I. PURPOSE

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is a flammable gas which has the potential to create a hazard. Therefore it is important that the safe storage of LPG be understood and applied. The purpose of this guideline is to ensure for the proper storage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas cylinders awaiting use, resale or part of a cylinder exchange point in all areas of the Auburn University campus.

## **II. OBJECTIVE**

This guideline is established in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association 58 *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code* to ensure compliance with Alabama State Fire Code requirements and to ensure the safe and proper storage of LPG cylinders on the Auburn University Campus.

## III. SCOPE

This guideline applies to all University faculty, staff, students and contractors.

## **IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

#### A. General Location of Cylinders

- 1. Cylinders in storage shall be located to minimize exposure to excessive temperature rises, physical damage or tampering.
- 2. Empty cylinders shall be considered as full cylinders.
- 3. Cylinders shall not be stored on roofs.

## B. Protection of Valves on Cylinders in Storage

- 1. Cylinder valves shall be protected by screw on type caps or collars and shall be in place on all cylinders stored regardless if they are full, partially full or empty.
- 2. Cylinder outlet valves shall be closed and plugged or capped.

#### C. Storage within Buildings

1. Storage of LPG cylinders of any size is prohibited in campus residential buildings.

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- 2. Storage of LPG gas cylinders in non-residential University buildings must be approved by the University Fire Safety Program Manager.
- 3. The cylinder size shall not exceed a water capacity of 2.7 lbs. and the maximum quantity of LPG stored in nonresidential buildings shall not exceed 200 lbs.
- 4. Cylinders stored in buildings shall not be located near exits, stairways, or in areas normally used, or intended to be used for the safe egress of occupants.

## D. Storage Outside of Buildings

- 1. Cylinders shall be at least 10 feet from any doorway or opening in a building.
- 2. Cylinders shall be at least 20 feet from any automotive service station fuel dispenser.
- 3. Cylinders shall be protected against tampering in either of two methods:
  - a. Enclosed with a minimum 6 feet high industrial chain link fence with 2 emergency access gates with a minimum 3 feet clearance provided to both emergency exits.
  - b. A lockable ventilated metal locker or rack that prevents tampering with valves and pilferage of the cylinder.