



PUBLIC SAFETY

FOOD TRUCK - PROPANE SAFETY

DPS – ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY COORDINATOR

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Event:

Date:

Responsible Person:

The purpose of this protocol is to address the storage and handling of propane at the food truck belonging to the Department of Hospitality and Culinary. The propane fuel is stored in a 100 lb propane tank that is seated in a metal cabinet that is mounted to the exterior of the truck. The protocol presented here are the key points. For more detailed information, review the references pasted at the end of the protocol.

- Whenever the food truck is left unattended, the cabinet that houses the propane tank must be locked.
- Before and after each use, the propane tank must be inspected for integrity.
- The propane tank must be chained, held with a bracket, or secured in some way to ensure that it remains in an upright position.
- When the propane tank is replaced, leak testing must be performed using a propane leak detector solution in accordance with the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code of the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA58).
- Operators must not leave the cooking equipment unattended while it is still hot
- Operate the cooking equipment only when all windows, service hatches, and ventilation sources are fully opened
- Ensure that the supply valve on the propane tank is closed when the equipment is not in use
- Ensure that the knobs on all the burners are in the off position when cooking has been completed.

References:

New Jersey Fire Code – Chapter 61 – Liquefied Petroleum Gases - https://up.codes/viewer/new_jersey/ifc-2015/chapter/61/liquefied-petroleum-gases#61

NFPA – Food Truck Safety - <https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/files/public-education/by-topic/food-trucks/foodtruckfactsheet.pdf>

FDNY – Storage and Use of Propane at Food Cart/Truck Commissaries - <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/fdny/downloads/pdf/business/Support/use-store-LPG-food-cart-commissaries.pdf>

Ohio Department of Commerce – Mobile Food Units - <https://warrenhd.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/MobileFoodUnitFireCodeOhioDepartmentOfCommerce.pdf>

Lakes Gas Company – Safety Tips for Small Propane Cylinders - <https://www.lakesgas.com/safety-tips-for-small-propane-cylinders/>

Propane 101 - <https://www.propane101.com/checkingforgasleaks.htm>