

Firefighter Do's and Dont's

Firefighters should carefully follow the guidelines below when responding to natural gas incidents.

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the gas provider informed of any developments through the fire department dispatcher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't enter buildings without wearing personal protective equipment and positive pressure SCBA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with the gas provider's representatives upon arrival at the incident scene. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't allow unnecessary or unauthorized personnel to enter buildings where gas odors are present.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately Evacuate per DOT Emergency Response Guide and barricade or rope off the area, rerouting traffic and pedestrians if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't try to extinguish burning gas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is a strong gas odor, evacuate buildings and leave them closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't operate any gas valves, other than the above-ground service shut-off valve before the meter, or appliance piping valves.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruct occupants not to turn any electrical equipment on or off. This includes lights, switches, motors, circuit breakers and any battery-powered devices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't open any gas valve that has been shut off.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call the fire department dispatcher if the situation warrants a discontinuation of electric service to a building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't pull any electric meters or attempt to disconnect the overhead electric service. Leave this to utility personnel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check other buildings in the surrounding area for the presence of gas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is a street leak, don't park vehicles nearby with the engine running.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuate buildings and eliminate any possible ignition sources before attempting to ventilate. Coordinate with the gas provider when possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't park in front of buildings where a gas leak is suspected.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't park directly over manhole covers or near storm sewer grates. Don't ventilate a building without first coordinating with utility personnel and verifying gas has been shut off and ignition sources have been eliminated.