

Canadian Birkebeiner Society

Safe Practice Implementation Protocol #004 Using Portable Propane Heaters

Note: Overall guidelines for supervisor and workers responsibilities for SPIP development and implementation are presented in the introduction to Appendix II of the CBS HEM Manual.

Scope:

This SPIP ensures that all CBS workers using portable propane heaters are aware of the hazards involved and are familiar with the manufacturer's instructions. All volunteers should use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Required PPE:

Recommended PPE:

Equipment required: Portable propane heaters provided from CBS inventory

General Procedures: Refer to manufacturer's specifications for the intended use.

FOR USE WITH PROPANE ONLY FOR USE INSIDE A TENT OR SIMILAR STRUCTURE

Warnings:

IF YOU SMELL GAS OR HEAR HISSING OF GAS ESCAPING, shut off and disconnect propane tank from heater. Extinguish any open flame. If odour or hissing continues, call for assistance.

DO NOT USE IN UNVENTILATED AREAS. This is a gas fired portable heater. It uses air (oxygen) from the area in which it is used. Adequate combustion and ventilation air must be provided. Provide a minimum fresh air opening of 9 square inches. If used without adequate combustion and ventilation air, the heater may give off excessive carbon monoxide, an odourless, poisonous gas.

DO NOT STORE OR USE GASOLINE OR OTHER FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS, INCLUDING SPARE PROPANE TANKS, NEAR THE HEATER

DO NOT PLACE CLOTHING OR OTHER FLAMMABLE MATERIAL ON OR NEAR THE HEATER

ALLOW HEATERS TO COMPLETELY COOL BEFORE STORING.

Operating instructions:

Use only 1 lb disposable propane cylinders.

Place on level ground.

Keep any objects at least 24 inches from the front of the heater.

Heater and cylinder must be upright during operation.

Make sure control knob is OFF.

Canadian Birkebeiner Society

Screw on propane cylinder. Hand tight only.

For heaters with a control knob with 4 positions (Pilot, High, Low, Off)

To light: Turn control knob to PILOT and depress to light.

If heater does not light, hold down for about 30 seconds; release and try again. Repeat until pilot lights.

After pilot lights, hold down for about 30 – 60 seconds and then release knob. Knob should fully extend.

To operate heater, slightly depress knob and gently turn to lock in the HIGH position. Leave on HIGH until burner tile turns bright orange.

After burner tile is bright orange, adjust heat output by turning control knob to LOW or HIGH.

To shut off heater, slightly push down control knob and turn to OFF.

For heaters with a control knob with 2 positions (On, Off)

To light: Depress ON button to light pilot flame (repeat until pilot lights) and continue to hold for 30 - 60 seconds.

After lighting pilot, release ON button to light heater.

To shut off heater, press the OFF.

Propane cylinder must be removed from heater when not in use.

Key Do's and Don'ts

Do

- Follow instructions detailed in the SPIP
- Report any problems with the equipment to the Volunteer Leader

Don't

- Use in an unventilated area
- Use near other flammable materials