

SOCALGAS COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER | 2018



COMMUNITY

SoCalGas Employees Help People Experiencing Homelessness



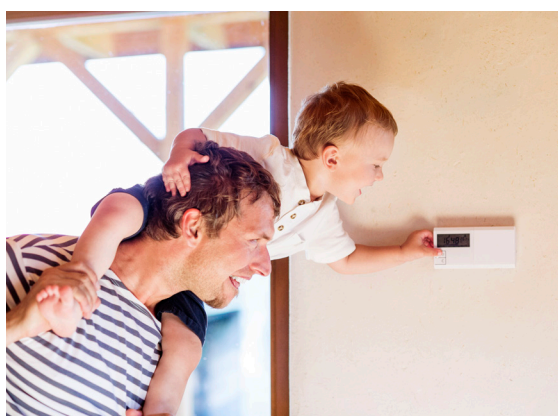
SoCalGas® employees have been out and about helping to raise awareness, funds and support for people in our community experiencing homelessness. In September, about 40 employees, many who are veterans, teamed up with the American Red Cross to assemble 400 hygiene kits for veterans. We distributed some of the kits to veterans living at the CalVet Veteran Home in West Los Angeles. In October, employees partnered with LA Family Housing

to assemble Thanksgiving grocery kits for families who have recently transitioned into temporary or permanent supportive housing. In November, SoCalGas and United Way of Greater Los Angeles brought the “Everyone In” campaign to SoCalGas’ Pico Rivera facility to help educate and engage employees on homelessness issues. In addition, employees raised nearly \$7,000 toward United Way’s HomeWalk event, happening on May 18, 2019. And, employees assembled “Welcome Home Kits” for individuals moving into housing. [Read more](#) about our “Everyone In” event.

SoCalGas is a proud sponsor of the United Way’s annual HomeWalk event to help end homelessness. For the past five years in a row, Team SoCalGas had been the top fundraiser and has had the highest participation at the event. We hope to see you all there next May!

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Dial It Down Alert



To help lower the risk of possible natural gas and electricity shortages this winter, SoCalGas launched a new energy conservation alert program designed to raise awareness about ways Southern Californians can reduce their natural gas use during periods of cold weather this winter. Beginning December 1, SoCalGas will issue a

“Dial It Down” Alert during periods of cold weather when local demand for natural gas for home heating, hot water, and cooking can increase rapidly and put a strain on the natural gas system. Dial It Down Alerts are similar to the Flex Alerts issued by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) that call on customers to conserve electricity for a specific period of time. If a Dial It Down Alert is issued this winter, SoCalGas will determine the duration of the conservation effort and will announce when the alert has ended.

During a Dial it Down Alert, these three actions can help conserve natural gas:

- Lower the thermostat to 68 degrees.
- Wait to use natural gas appliances.
- Wash clothes using cold water.

[Learn more](#)

IN THE NEWS

Innovative Natural Gas Capture System



SoCalGas is a leader in reducing emissions from its system, delivering more than 99.5 percent of the natural gas brought into its pipelines. In October, SoCalGas announced it had achieved a new milestone with its innovative natural gas capture system, conserving a total of more than 2.5 million cubic feet of natural gas - the equivalent to what more than 12,500 homes use each day on average in the U.S. - since first deploying the technique in August 2016.

When crews perform work on a pipeline, some natural gas inside the pipe must be released for safety.

Instead of being released into the atmosphere, the natural gas is captured, compressed, and reinjected back into the utility’s pipeline system for use by SoCalGas customers. The innovative process reduces emissions and eliminates noise and odor that typically occur in the traditional venting process during pipeline replacement or inspection work.

“For more than 25 years, SoCalGas has been working hard to reduce emissions from its operations, and because of many practices, like the gas capture system, we have one of the lowest methane emission rates of any natural gas distribution company in the country,” said David Buczkowski, vice president of gas engineering and system integrity for SoCalGas. “We are pleased that the CPUC responded positively to the compliance plan and best practices we submitted earlier this year, and believe the approved plan will assist our efforts to further reduce emissions.”

[Learn more](#)

SAFETY TIP

Stay Cozy, Stay Safe

As winter approaches, nighttime temperatures in Southern California drop. Here are a few maintenance and safety tips to follow when using your furnace to stay warm.

Floor Furnace

- Avoid lint build-up by vacuuming the floor furnace and the area around it regularly.
- Keep children away from the grill, as it gets very hot.
- Avoid fires - don’t place rugs, furniture or combustible items over or near the grill, and do not block the airflow.

Wall Furnace

- Clean inside the burner compartment of built-in, vented wall furnaces once a month during the heating season to prevent lint build-up.

Central Gravity Furnace and Central Forced-air Heating

- In order to operate safely and efficiently, your natural gas furnace must be free of dust and lint build-up.
- Inspect your filter monthly for lint build-up during periods of furnace use. Clean or replace the filter if necessary.
- When installing a new or cleaned filter, be sure to reinstall the front-door panel of the furnace properly so it fits snugly.

[Learn more](#)