



Growth and Prosperity Stakeholders Group

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017

-South Central Natural Gas Project-

So GPSG, how can natural gas be used?

In the Home:

Natural Gas Furnaces – Innovation in gas furnaces has come a long way, a high-efficiency natural gas furnace uses a secondary heat exchanger to extract energy from water vapour, which is a bi-product of burning natural gas. Models have been rated 98.5% Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE), which is an improvement over older versions that delivered a 60-70% AFUE. This enhances cost savings and is better for the environment as energy isn't wasted out the chimney vent. Other home appliances can be set up to use natural gas including a hot water tank, gas range and oven, clothes dryer, fireplace, BBQ, or a hot tub.

In Schools and Hospitals

Larger facilities with concrete slabs such as schools and hospitals often use a boiler for heating. Replacement of electric or propane as the fuel source can cut the bills by half or more. In hospitals, it is often necessary to have two heating options, for example in the case of an electrical power outage.

In Ice Arenas or Curling Rinks

In Manitoba, natural gas is not commonly used to power air-conditioning or ice-making equipment. In fact, most arenas and curling rinks are built to utilize the heat given off from the ice making equipment to heat viewing areas and dressing rooms. However, this often needs to be supplemented in very cold weather when the ice plant rarely runs and heating is needed the most.

On the Farm

The GPSG expanded the project scope to bring natural gas to agricultural producers who found value in cost savings for grain drying, as well as for livestock barns, in particular, for heating hog or poultry barns.

In Vehicles

This application is an emerging technology and is currently being used for company fleets, such as garbage trucks or in mining vehicles in remote areas. However, there may be agricultural or municipal applications if the infrastructure becomes more readily available. Vehicles powered by natural gas produce 20 – 25% fewer greenhouse gases than those powered by gasoline and have the potential to cut fuel bills in half.

In Industry

Commercial and manufacturing industries offer a diverse range of applications for natural gas. For example, food processing generally involves heating for either drying, cooking, pasteurizing, or sterilizing equipment. In equipment manufacturing a major use is drying intake air for paint application. The intake air for a paint booth needs to be frequently exchanged to meet safety protocols.

Having natural gas available provides an alternative cost saving option to users and can encourage new growth or re-investment of savings into community expansion.

Natural Gas Distribution in Manitoba



Multi-colored areas have access to natural gas. Let's complete the missing puzzle piece!

Facebook: Growth and Prosperity Stakeholders Group

Instagram: gpsg_sc

Twitter: @gpsg_sc

Website: www.southcentralnaturalgas.com

Phone: (204) 245-1405

Email: manager.gpsg@gmail.com

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