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RG&E consumer news

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Use Aerosol Sprays At the Consumer Center Cautiously

By Miss Anne S. Fenstermacher
Staff Assistant-Consumer Affairs

Manufacturers of gas appliances have identified a problem which I would like to bring to your attention. They have traced the premature failure of an increasing number of furnace heat exchangers to the action of corrosive chemicals. Aerosol sprays are particularly suspect as a cause because the incidence of the problem in homes has increased as the number of sprays such as cleaning solvents, waxes, starches, oven cleaners and hair sprays has increased in recent years.

The sprays' propellants combine with the combustion products of the gas flame to produce a corrosive acid. A build-up of this acid can corrode the metal of the furnace heat exchanger and eventually cause its failure.

Furthermore, many manufacturers have decided that heat exchanger failure due to chemical corrosion will not be covered by their warranties. This is true even if the failure happens within the actual warranty period because the failure is not due to a defect in the equipment. Replacement will be costly for a homeowner who must bear the full cost.

It is reasonable to expect that the same corrosion problem could occur with other gas appliances such as ranges, water heaters and clothes dryers. You can take steps to reduce the chances of corrosion problems related to the use of aerosol sprays:

If it is necessary for you to use aerosol spray products, reduce their concentration by using them less frequently, for a shorter time, and in a well-ventilated room, or minimize their use by substituting other products where possible:

Also, be certain to read and heed the cautionary labels on aerosol products. Careful use of aerosols is definitely wise!

All RG&E Offices Closed July 4th.
In case of emergency

Call 546-1100

Have a Safe Summer

Now that the children are out of school and are apt to be around the home, be sure to make it accident free.

In the kitchen those junior cooks should be instructed in the proper use of equipment. Ranges that have been off can still burn, blenders, mixers and knives can cut small fingers. Kitchen cleaners and chemicals are poisonous, never store them in beverage or milk containers. Laundry products can also cause burns of the skin and mouth. Bleach, ammonia and other laundry aids should be kept out of the reach of children.

Instruct children in how to safely get out of the home should there be a fire. Have emergency numbers handy and instruct children in how to use the phone.

Summer Hours at RG&E

Throughout the months of July and August the Customer Service Office at RG&E's Main Office at 89 East Avenue will be closed on Saturdays. It will be open, however, its regular hours Monday through Friday — from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Customer Service Offices at Joseph Avenue and the Bull's Head Plaza will remain open Monday through Friday

from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as usual.

The Appliance Department at 89 East Avenue will be closed on Saturdays during July and August. It will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday through 9 p.m.

Recipe of the Week

Liven up your summer supper with this special salad . . .

MACARONI AND CHEESE SALAD RING

- 4 ounces elbow macaroni
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 1/4 cup French dressing
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 2 cups sieved cottage cheese
- Salad greens
- 1/4 cup diced pimiento
- Sliced green olives
- 1/4 cup diced green pepper
- Radish roses

1. Cook macaroni in boiling salted water. Rinse with cold water and drain well.
2. Add French dressing, mix well and chill 30 minutes to marinate.
3. Add cottage cheese, pimiento, green pepper, onion and parsley and mix well.
4. Press mixture into a 9 inch ring mold. Chill several hours.
5. Unmold by loosening sides of mold with a knife. Turn out on a bed of salad greens. Garnish top with sliced olives and arrange radishes around the mold.

Gas Furnace Pilot Shut-Off Light-up Instructions Available

There are both advantages and disadvantages to shutting off your gas furnace pilot this summer. You may need heat several nights during

July and August, and having the pilot shut-off, and relighted will cost you money unless you do it yourself.



You will learn to light your gas furnace pilot on actual equipment at RG&E's Consumer Center

On the plus side, shutting off your pilot will help conserve natural gas and will reduce your operating costs, especially if you have central air conditioning. You will keep your heating equipment in better condition also, if you have central air conditioning by eliminating the chance of pilot gas condensation in the heat exchanger of your furnace.

If you decide the conservation of natural gas and the savings are worth your time and effort, you may be able to shut your pilot off and relight it yourself. We will teach you how at our Consumer Information Center for the next three weeks. This is not a project to be undertaken lightly, however. Certain safety precautions must be observed. That's why we recommend that you let our Residential Representatives show you how. These men are familiar with many kinds of heating equipment. Many of them have worked as heating servicemen themselves.

From the Home Service Department Self-Clean or Continuous Clean: What's the Difference?

Many consumers, in the market for a new range, are totally confused about the different types of automatic oven cleaning. To help assure understanding of exactly what is involved in each system, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) has reaffirmed its definitions and guidelines of "self-cleaning" and "continuous cleaning".

"Self-cleaning" describes an oven employing a special heat cycle to quickly and thoroughly burn off all soil. The oven locks during this cycle to insure safety. AHAM recommends advertising guidelines for all communications — newspaper, magazine, radio, and television — to stress their points:

- "1. The oven soil is reduced to light ash during a separate high heat cycle.
2. The remaining ash can be removed with a damp cloth."

"Continuous-cleaning" refers to a rough, porous finish on interior surfaces which exposes the soil more completely for decomposition by oxidation. This gradual process takes place during normal baking periods. The time for a spatter or spillover to disappear depends on the type of food — fatty substances decompose readily but sugar may take longer. AHAM recommendations of points to stress are:

- "1. The oven soil is gradually reduced to a presentably clean condition on specially treated surfaces during normal baking or roasting operations.
2. It should be noted that any spillovers should be wiped away.
3. Those surfaces specially treated should be specified because only treated surfaces will be subject to continuous cleaning action."

These definitions recommended for advertising procedures have been adopted by manufacturers throughout the range industry to help prevent the distribution of false or misleading information to consumers.

Brookwood Open July 4

For your holiday enjoyment, the Brookwood Science Information Center will be open the Fourth of July. All next week it will be open during its regular days and hours — Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The whole family will enjoy a visit to Brookwood, which is located on Lake Road in Ontario on the grounds of RG&E's Ginna Plant. At Brookwood, animated displays, films, and an informative staff

Pilot shut-off and light-up instructions will be given continuously from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Consumer Information Center located on the main floor of our 89 East Avenue office. If the schedules times are inconvenient for you, call 546-2700, extension 2751 for an appointment.

will present the story of the generation of electricity, with special emphasis on the generation of electricity by nuclear energy.

There is no charge for the visit, and parking is free.

FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS COUPON TO:

Dept. 34 Rochester Gas and Electric
89 East Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14649

I would like more information on the following items:

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Name Phone

Address Zip Code