

# Propane Torches

## AgSafe Safe Work Procedure

1. Wear eye protection, at the minimum C.S.A. approved safety glasses.
2. Wear hearing protection, at the minimum use the insert type earplugs.
3. Always wear long sleeve fire retardant coveralls.
4. Always wear thick leather gloves.
5. At least one fire extinguisher of a suitable type and capacity must be kept in the immediate location whenever the torch is being operated.
6. All propane systems must be equipped with a functional regulator.
7. Prior to lighting the torch check to ensure that:
  - a. All connections are tight
  - b. The bottle is secured in an upright position
  - c. The hose is not damaged
  - d. The propane cylinders are not corroded or damaged
8. Never light the torch with anything other than an approved friction striker.
9. Always make sure that the flame is pointing away from yourself or others.
10. Never operate the torch in the proximity of anything that is flammable.  
(Wood, rags, or insulation)
11. When you are not using the torch, never place it on anything that is flammable.
12. When leaving the work area, ensure that the valves are shut off and that all of the propane in the lines is burned off.
13. Do not operate any equipment if the odor of gas (rotten egg smell) is present.
14. Never apply the flame or outside heat to the cylinder to increase the pressure from the tank.

15. Be careful when torching around pipes or fresh air vents. They could be under suction and draw the flame into the building structure.
16. Propane cylinder valves must be fully open when in use and tightly closed when not in use.
17. Cylinder valves must not be used to control or adjust the torch's flame.
18. In the event of a propane fire:
  - a. Shut the gas off
  - b. Evacuate the area
19. If the gas flow cannot be shut off safely:
  - a. Allow the gas to burn
  - b. Evacuate the area and call the local fire department immediately
20. When transporting propane ensure that the cylinder is secured in an upright position.
21. Ensure that the propane tanks are stored outside when not in use.

Please use the following **Safe Work Procedures** as a guideline to building your own safe work procedures.