



Excess Flow Valve (EFV) Notice to Customers

In accordance with federal regulations Lancaster Municipal Gas (LMG) is required to notify customers of their right to request installation of an excess flow valve on the gas line to your property. EFVs are mechanical shut-off devices that can be installed in the gas pipe running to the gas meter at your property (the “service line”). An EFV is designed to shut off the flow of natural gas automatically if the service line breaks, for example, by an excavation accident. Stopping the flow of gas from a broken service line significantly reduces the risk of natural gas fire, explosion, personal injury, and/or property damage.

Even though this device will help in the case of an excavation damage, presence of this device on a service line does **not serve as a substitute for contacting 8-1-1** a minimum of 48 hours (but no more than 10 days) prior to performing an excavation.

If you notify LMG that you want an EFV, LMG will contact you to set up a mutually agreeable date for installation of the EFV on your service line. You will be billed for the cost of installing the EFV. The average installation cost is typically \$500-\$1,500 for residential customers, but the actual installation cost will depend on the difficulty of installation. LMG will inform you of the actual cost before you make the final decision that you want an EFV. If it becomes necessary to maintain or replace the EFV on your service line, LMG will maintain or replace the EFV at no charge to you.

Please know, even if installation of a flow valve is requested, an EFV will not be installed on your service line if any of the following conditions are applicable:

- The service line does not operate at a pressure of 10 psig or greater throughout the year;
- The EFV could interfere with proper operation or cause loss of service;
- An EFV could interfere with necessary operation or maintenance activities; or
- The capacity of the meter on the service line exceeds 1,000 cubic feet per hour (for commercial or industrial customers).

If you request an EFV, LMG will inform you if your service line meets any of these conditions

EFV Frequently Asked Questions:

What won't an EFV do?

EFVs are not designed to close if a leak occurs beyond the gas meter (on house piping or appliances). EFVs also may not close if the leak on the service line is small.

Will the EFV potentially close if I add load in the future?

If you add additional gas appliances, for example, a pool heater, emergency generator, etc., the additional gas flow may cause the EFV to close. LMG should be contacted in this case and solutions will be recommended at this time.

What might trigger a need to replace your EFV?

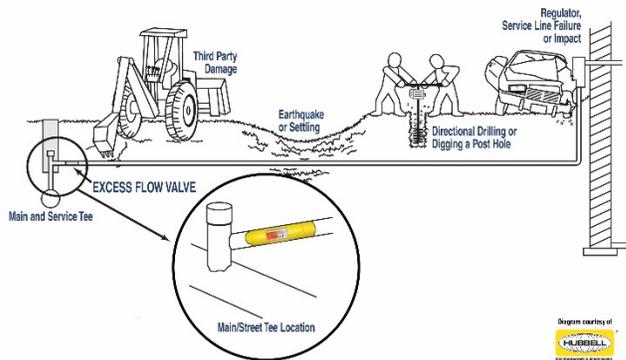
EFV replacement may be necessary if you add additional gas appliances, such as a pool heater or emergency generator that exceeds the capacity of the EFV.

EFV replacement may be necessary if the EFV malfunctions (sticks open or closed).*

**Industry experience is EFVs rarely malfunction.*

Where on the service line would an EFV be installed?

LMG will locate the EFV as close as practical to the source of supply (gas main); however, certain conditions necessitate installation in an alternate location if installation near the gas main is impractical (e.g. gas main is under pavement or is in an area where space does not easily allow for installation at the gas main. A diagram of a typical EFV installation is as follows (courtesy of Hubbell):



How do I contact LMG to request installation of a flow valve?

Lancaster Municipal Gas 740-687-6670 x0 (Mon-Fri 7:30 am – 4:00 pm),
lancastermunicipalgas@ci.lancaster.oh.us