

Old Natural Gas Connectors Pose Potential for Danger



Can you guess which natural gas connector needs to be replaced? If you picked the third one, you're right. That's an uncoated brass connector that should no longer be used. The others, from left, are: coated brass connector, coated stainless steel connector and an uncoated stainless steel connector. Any of these three are safe to use.

The old natural gas stove in your kitchen might still bake the best cookies, but there's a chance it might have an outdated—and dangerous—connector.

Uncoated brass connectors haven't been used in more than 20 years because they can easily crack or break, which could cause a gas leak, explosion, or fire.

"These older brass connectors have a serious flaw in how their tubing was joined to their end pieces," according to information from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety

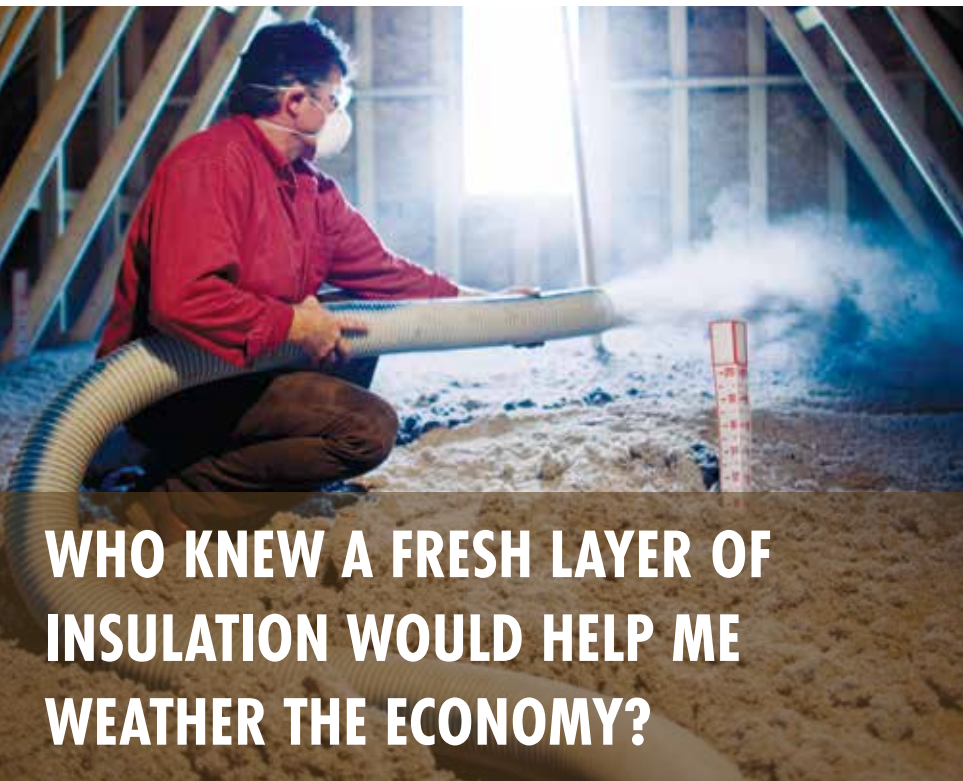
Commission. "Over time, the end pieces can separate from the tubing. The older these connectors get, the greater the possibility of failure."

If you suspect your older appliance might have one of these connectors, the CPSC recommends that you have a qualified professional inspect it. If an older connector is found, the professional will replace it with either a plastic-coated brass connector or a new stainless steel connector.

The CPSC warns people not to move the appliances themselves be-

cause even slight movement could release natural gas into the room and create a hazardous situation. If you suspect a gas leak, leave the house immediately and don't use anything electrical. Once outside, call Rock Energy Cooperative at 608-752-4550 or toll-free at 866-752-4550 from your cell phone or a neighbor's house.

Here's another tip from the CPSC: Always replace natural gas connectors whenever an appliance is replaced or moved to another location.




WHO KNEW A FRESH LAYER OF INSULATION WOULD HELP ME WEATHER THE ECONOMY?

There was money hiding in my attic. Not anymore. I'm saving \$240 a year just by adding insulation. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at TogetherWeSave.com.



Rock Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM