About Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Vehicle Safety

According to the U.S. Department of Energy’s Alternative Fuels Data Center, CNG vehicles are much safer than gasoline-powered vehicles.(1)

- CNG is lighter than air. This means CNG is less of a fire hazard than gasoline, since it dissipates more quickly.
- CNG doesn’t ignite until reaching about 1163°F, compared to gasoline which ignites at about 495°F.
- CNG has a narrow range of air concentrations that can ignite — if there is less than 5%, or more than 15% natural gas in the air, it will not burn.
- CNG tanks are much thicker and stronger than normal gas tanks.

Frequently Asked Questions

How far can I travel in a CNG vehicle?
You may be able to drive an average of 200 miles on a full tank (or 100 miles each way). However, mileage varies depending on driving conditions, so pay attention to your fuel light. The fuel light indicates you can travel approximately 22 more miles before running out of fuel, depending on your driving conditions.

What if there is the smell of natural gas in the vehicle?
1. Open all windows in the CNG vehicle.
2. Set the temperature controls to defrost and open all vents on the dashboard.
3. As you drive, the smell should clear out of the vehicle.
Make sure to keep all windows closed any time you refuel. This will prevent natural gas fumes from getting into the CNG vehicle.

In the unlikely event that the natural gas smell doesn’t clear after three days, please call the State Motor Pool Shop at 503-378-4269.

What should I do if I run out of fuel?
Call one of the 24-hour non-emergency assistance phone numbers in this brochure. You will most likely be towed to the nearest CNG fill station.

Emergency Assistance: 9-1-1

24-hour non-emergency assistance

For non-emergency assistance:
- **During business hours** (M–F, 6:30 a.m.–6 p.m.), call the State Motor Pool office at **503-378-4377**
- **After hours**, call **503-881-2451** or **503-580-9006**. Staff will make every attempt to answer your call. If you reach voicemail, please leave a message. They will return your call as soon as possible.

Online Resources

Scan the QA code on the right or visit us online at [http://www.oregon.gov/das/FleetPark/Pages/fuel.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/das/FleetPark/Pages/fuel.aspx) to learn more about State Motor Pool services.

How to refuel CNG vehicles

Write down
1. The odometer mileage
2. Your pump number

In the vehicle
3. Use the fuel door release lever next to the driver’s seat to open the fuel tank door.

Outside the vehicle
4. Remove the fuel tank dust cover.
5. Attach the yellow CNG pump nozzle to the fuel tank fill port:
   - Firmly press the pump nozzle until you hear a “click.”
   - Tug to make sure there is a firm attachment.
6. Turn the black knob on the pump handle clockwise to the “FILL” position.
7. Rotate the paddle on the side of the CNG pump clockwise to the “ON” position (toward the green arrow).
   This allows the gas to flow into the fuel tank once you have paid (see step 8, below).
8. Go to the card reader station:
   - Insert and remove the Voyager card.
   - Type in the odometer mileage and press “Enter.”
     » ODOT employees may get a prompt for an ID number.
   - Type in the pump number and press “Enter.”
     » Screen should read “OK, Start Pumping.”
     » You will hear a “beep.”
     » There is a rushing sound as the fuel tank fills.
     » Once filled, the pump will sound another “beep.”
9. Turn the black knob on the pump handle counterclockwise to the “VENT” position.
10. Pull back on the yellow nozzle collar to disconnect it from the vehicle’s fuel tank fill port.
11. Rotate the paddle on the side of the CNG pump counterclockwise to the “OFF” position (toward the red arrow).
12. Return the nozzle to the CNG pump.
13. Replace the fuel tank dust cover.
14. Close the fuel tank door.
15. Check the vehicle’s fuel gauge to make sure the tank is full.

Thanks and drive safely!

If you need assistance during normal business hours, please come to the front office or call 503-378-4377.