

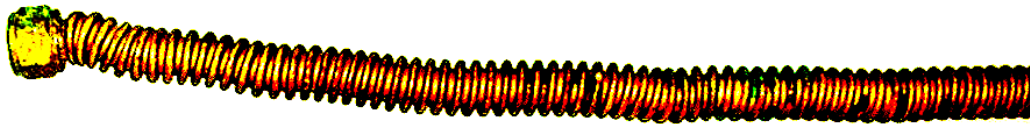
FLEXIBLE GAS CONNECTOR WARNING

A flexible connector is a fitting made of corrugated metal tubing used to connect some gas appliances to the customer's gas piping system. Most of the connectors are made of brass or stainless steel and are usually less than 48" in length. Some older connectors were made of uncoated brass.

In 1997 the Consumer Product Safety Commission released a notice warning consumers about dangerous situations resulting from older corrugated flexible connectors used to connect gas appliances, follow this link to view the CPSC warning <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PREREL/PRHTML97/97003.html>

The primary concern with the older, uncoated brass connectors was how they were constructed. The flared ends of the connector were soldered to the corrugated metal tubing section. The soldered joint could become weak with age and/or movement and over time they could potentially leak or break. Most uncoated brass connectors were manufactured prior to the early 1980's.

Below is a picture of an uncoated flexible connector made of brass.



It can be difficult to determine if a flexible connector has a soldered joint just by looking at it. It is therefore recommended that any uncoated flexible connectors be replaced with a new stainless steel or coated flexible connector.

If you are concerned you may have an uncoated corrugated flexible connector you may want to contact a qualified heating and air contractor or plumber to inspect your appliances and, if necessary, replace your connectors.

If you prefer, you may contact Elk River Public Utility District and we will be glad to send one of our trained technicians to perform a free safety inspection to determine if you have an uncoated flexible connector on your appliance(s). If so, we will gladly replace it with a new stainless steel connector (see picture below) for the costs of the parts only and no labor.

FLEXIBLE GAS CONNECTOR WARNING (Continued)

Below is a picture of a typical modern stainless steel connector.



New connectors must conform to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard Z21.24

This safety message is a courtesy of the Elk River Public Utility District.

Our customer's safety is our number one priority!