

Natural Gas In Wolfe Pointe

Chesapeake Utilities has contacted the board and is ready to bring natural gas into Wolfe Pointe if we have enough volume to justify it. The following questions and answers should help with the questions you will have on this.

1. **How many property owners need to apply for them to bring natural gas to Wolfe Pointe?** They need at least 68 to 70 property owners with “average” propane usage to justify their expense to bring natural gas to Wolfe Pointe. Someone who just uses propane for a gas fireplace and hot water heater wouldn’t use enough to be a full person, but their next door neighbor with a little bit larger than your average house who heats with propane, and heats water, and has one or more fireplaces might be equivalent to 1.5 property owners. So these two property owners might be the equivalent of two property owners. And someone with a very large home, with multiple hot water heaters, multiple fireplaces and cooking devices might use enough to be the equivalent of two property owners. So we just need to fill out the applications and return them, to find out if we have enough positive responses to justify gas here. If we get this minimum number of property owners to participate, there will be no additional surcharge on our gas rates and we will pay the same amount as all of their other customers.
2. **What will this save me?** A conservative estimate is that natural gas will cost you the equivalent of about \$1.80 for each gallon of propane you use today. You can do the math to see how long it will take you to get a payback of your conversion costs based on your propane usage.
3. **What will it cost me to convert?** You will need to identify your propane heaters, stoves, ovens, hot water heaters, fireplaces, generators and anything else you might have that runs on propane that you will need to convert to natural gas. A few hot water heaters cannot be converted and will need to be replaced, but very few. We will be publishing some sample conversion costs you can use as guidelines to get an idea of what it might cost to convert. These will only give you a rough idea of the costs because different appliances have different costs. The best thing to do is to contact Chesapeake Utilities to get a free conversion cost estimate that they will guarantee it will not increase in price later. Call 855-290-9628 to make an appointment. In addition to this, there will be a \$35 one time meter set fee, which will be on your first bill. That should be it.
4. **What can I expect to happen?** Before we get a commitment from Chesapeake Utilities, we need enough property owners applying for natural gas. See question one for details on that. It is important that we get those commitments quickly, because they cannot work on state roads between May 15 and September 15. So if we get enough property owners soon enough, they can bring the gas line down Gills Neck Road to the entrance of Wolfe Pointe before May 15. If that happens, they will then bring the gas main lines into Wolfe Pointe and run all of the main lines where they are needed throughout Wolfe Pointe. If your home will be impacted by the running of the gas mains, you will be notified to mark any irrigation heads by the road so that they can be sure to avoid them when they are running the gas main lines. After that they will begin scheduling individual homes to be converted to natural gas.

5. **What can I expect from the conversion?** They will schedule your conversion with you. They will contact MissUtil to determine where utilities are that they need to be careful of. If you have an irrigation system, you should mark your sprinkler heads, at the very least. If you have a diagram of your irrigation lines, they would love to have a copy of that. They will mark the path they intend to follow to bring the gas line to your house. You should examine that path, and let them know of anything in that path that might be a problem. That could be something like a power line to a shed, or anything unexpected that might be buried in the ground. They will then run the line to your house. If they accidentally break anything like a water line, electric or cable line, they will take care of getting it fixed right away. If there is something you should have told them about but didn't, you will need to get it fixed. Your gas and propane will need to be shut off during the conversion. Depending on how many things you have that need to be converted, most conversions will be completed in 3 to 6 hours. They will not leave anyone without heat or hot water overnight. If it looks like that could be a problem, they will reschedule the conversion, most likely to the next day. Your electricity will not have to be shut off during the conversion. Chesapeake Utilities will fill in any holes they create and seed any lawn areas that are damaged. If you want sod, you will have to replace the sod.
6. **What about my propane tank?** You should contact your propane supplier to determine if you have any outstanding contractual obligations and to decide what to do with the tank if you decide to convert to natural gas.
7. **What about unimproved lots?** Unless you are planning to build on your lot this year, you do not need to do anything at this time. If you are building on your lot this year, you should fill out both applications to the best of your knowledge, including the builder information so the builder can coordinate with Chesapeake Utilities.
8. **Can I have someone other than Chesapeake Utilities convert my appliances?** You can, but Chesapeake Utilities has volume contracts with a number of certified providers and will most likely be able to do the conversions for the lowest cost with guaranteed results.
9. **What about those yellow posts I see along natural gas lines?** There will be a few of these yellow posts in Wolfe Pointe, but they will only be at the ends of a line, so there will not be many of them. Chesapeake Utilities just finished installing the main line in Bay Breeze, so you can take a look there to see what the yellow pipes look like, and how much property was disturbed. It is too cold still for any grass seed to have sprouted yet, but that will be done too. In case you don't know how to get to Bay Breeze, go out Gills Neck Road toward the high school, make a right on Kings Highway. About ¼ mile down the road you will see a sign for the Jefferson Apartments and Bay Breeze. Turn right there and then make your first left to go into Bay Breeze.
10. **What about my gas grill?** For fire safety reasons, Chesapeake Utilities will not allow two different gas sources to go into one home. So if your generator and/or gas grill are hooked directly to your propane tank today, they will need to be converted to natural gas. If you have a grill that uses a 20 lb propane tank which is carried on the grill, you can continue to use it without conversion.