

Proper Fueling **DEFENDS** You and Your Family...

Gasoline stations have changed dramatically over the years to meet the growing needs of today's consumer. Most people want to fill-up their tank, pick up a few items in the convenience store and head back on the road to their hectic lives in a matter of minutes. While many changes have been made to make the experience fast and friendly for all, the emphasis on safety will never change.

Today's retail sites are designed and operated with the customer's safety in mind. However, being careless with fuel can jeopardize everybody's safety. **Using safe and simple fuelling techniques **DEFENDS** you and your family from unnecessary risks.**

- D** ***Do not smoke or light matches or lighters or use any sparking devices.*** Gasoline vapours are highly flammable when mixed with air. If you add an ignition source to the mix, a fire or explosion may occur.
- E** ***Ensure you turn your vehicle off before refueling.*** Also make sure that any pilot lights in your RV, lunch truck or trailer are turned off. Either one could provide another source of ignition.
- F** ***Fully inform the attendant if there is a spill.*** Gas station attendants are trained to deal with these situations safely and efficiently.
- E** ***Explain to young children that it is not safe for them to handle the nozzle.*** Don't expose your small child to the potential risk of being splashed with gasoline or inhaling fumes. As for teenagers, protect them by teaching these safe and simple fueling techniques. They will likely ensure you practice them as well.
- N** ***Never jam the nozzle open with an object.*** Jamming the nozzle open greatly increases the chance of spills that could possibly impact the local environment and create a safety hazard. To encourage customers to stay by the nozzle while fueling, CPPI members have eliminated hold open nozzle clips at self serve service stations.
- D** ***Do not overfill your tank.*** Overflow and spillage can impact the local environment and create an unsafe condition.
- S** ***Stay by the nozzle during fuelling.*** In some cases, a static electricity charge may be generated as you move around your vehicle, or get in and out of it during fueling. When you return to grab the nozzle, the static electricity charge could cause a spark, igniting gasoline vapours and causing a brief flash fire. In addition, when filling portable containers, place the container on the ground to avoid possible static electricity igniting fuel vapours.

Although serious incidents are rare, it's up to everybody to understand and practise these safe and simple refueling techniques. Fueling a vehicle only takes a few minutes, but should receive your full attention. Avoid distractions such as cell phone use while fueling your vehicle. Staff on site are trained to deal with a variety of situations, but you can help by staying alert at the pumps. It **DEFENDS** you and your family against unnecessary risks.
