



For your safety, we ask that you follow these precautions before and while pumping gas.

- No Smoking
- Turn off engine
- Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices
- Discharge static before fueling
- Place portable fuel containers on ground before fueling
- Do not put gasoline into unapproved containers
- Never allow children to use the pump
- Do not leave the dispenser unattended



**FOR YOUR SAFETY  
TOWN PUMP  
RECOMMENDS THAT  
YOU OBSERVE ALL  
POSTED SAFETY  
WARNINGS WHILE  
PUMPING FUEL.**

Visit these web sites for more information

[www.ces.purdue.edu/cfs/programs/gaspump/index.htm](http://www.ces.purdue.edu/cfs/programs/gaspump/index.htm)

[www.pei.org](http://www.pei.org)  
[www.api.org](http://www.api.org)



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**Safety At  
The Pump**



# Safety During Refueling

## Static Electricity at the Pump

Static electricity-related incidents at retail gasoline outlets are extremely unusual, but the potential for them to happen appears to be the highest during cool or cold and dry climate conditions. In rare circumstances, these static related incidents have resulted in a brief flash fire occurring at the fill point. Consumers can take steps to minimize these and other potential fueling hazards by following safe refueling procedures all year long.

Most important, motorists should not get back into their vehicles during refueling. It may be a temptation to get back in the car for any number of reasons. But the average fill-up takes only two minutes, and staying outside the vehicle will greatly minimize the likelihood of any build-up of static electricity that could be discharged at the nozzle.

A build-up of static electricity can be caused by re-entering a vehicle during fueling, particularly in cool or cold and dry weather. If the motorist then returns to the vehicle fill pipe during refueling, the static may discharge at the fill point, causing a flash fire or small sustained fire with gasoline refueling vapors.

Motorists who cannot avoid getting back into the vehicle should always first touch a metal part of the vehicle with a bare hand, such as the door, or some other metal surface, away from the fill point upon exiting the vehicle.

## Filling Portable Fuel Containers

- Filling portable containers in or on the vehicle is dangerous if the container has not been grounded. Static electricity could create a spark and start a flash fire
- Always put the container on the ground to fill, and keep the pump nozzle in contact with the container until you are done filling. Never fill container in the back of a pick-up or any vehicle
- Please be aware that it is unlawful and dangerous to put gasoline into unapproved containers.



File photo. Fowler Associates Inc.

## Preventing a Static Fire

- Before using the pump touch metal on the car (such as the door) with your bare hand. This will discharge static electricity on your body and will prevent possible fire.
- Once the gasoline is pumping, do not get back into your vehicle. This can recharge your body with static electricity. If you must re-enter your vehicle, discharge static electricity again before touching the pump nozzle.

For a free video, and the do's and don'ts of fueling, please visit;  
[www.ces.purdue.edu/cfs/programs/gaspump/index.htm](http://www.ces.purdue.edu/cfs/programs/gaspump/index.htm)

## If a Fire Starts

- If a fire starts while the pump nozzle is in your vehicle, **do not remove the nozzle.**
- Back away immediately and tell the station attendant.