

# Memphis Light, Gas and Water Blue Flame Art Contest

## “The Blue Flame”

The Blue Flame is the newest MLGW Power League Super Hero. The Blue Flame is all about gas and he wants to help MLGW customers identify and rid their homes of gas safety hazards. Some key gas safety concepts are:

- 1. Natural Gas is an energy source that comes from the ground.**  
Natural gas was created millions of years ago from the remains of plants and animals that decayed. Natural Gas is used every day in the appliances like furnaces used to heat homes, hot water heaters for showers/baths and stoves to cook food.
- 2. Gas appliances should have a clear, steady blue flame. A blue flame is a safe flame.**  
The blue flame means that the gas is getting the oxygen it needs. A key warning sign that a gas appliance needs servicing is a yellow or red flame or a flame with a yellow burning tip.
- 3. A natural gas leak smells like rotten eggs.**  
If a really bad smell happens all of a sudden, get out of the house right away and find a grown-up. Do not use the phone or turn on/off the lights or other appliances. These things could spark an explosion.
- 4. Be safe and don't hang on or jump on pipes or on the meter outside.**  
The pipes might come loose, letting the gas escape or a gas leak could happen if a gas pipe is damaged.
- 5. Remind grown-ups to call 811 before they dig.**  
If you're helping someone dig a hole, it's very important to have underground utility lines marked before you start.
- 6. Prevent fires!**  
Make sure no one leaves paper, dish towels or anything flammable near an open flame on the stove/cooktop. Never put flammable items near a gas water heater or furnace.
- 7. Don't use a gas stove or range to heat the home.**  
A gas burner or oven may go out or burn inefficiently, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning which can lead to death.