



City of Madison Fire Department

News Release

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Gas Leak Clears Two Buildings on Old University Avenue

City of Madison Firefighters were called to the 1700 block of Old University Avenue this morning just after 11:00 to investigate a strong odor of natural gas. When fire crews arrived they noted a pervasive gas odor along the street, with the heaviest concentration in a building at 1710 University. Occupants of that building were evacuated.

Most of the children in a child care center at a church across the street were out on a field trip. Others took a walk. A family daycare on Lathrop also moved children farther away from the scene.

MGE arrived shortly after the call to investigate the cause of the leak. Once gas was shut off, all occupants were allowed to return to their respective buildings.

The City of Madison Fire Department reminds residents:

If you suspect a natural gas leak inside, immediately stop what you're doing (do not flip any electrical switches, unplug anything or use a telephone) and go outside. Inhaling high concentrations can also lead to **asphyxia** (when the body is deprived of oxygen) and possibly death. Early symptoms of asphyxia include fatigue and chest pain.

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