

# Consumer guidance for the safe handling of chemicals

Fuels are chemicals hazardous to health and the environment and it is necessary to pay particular attention to safety when handling and storing them. The following are consumer instructions and tips for the safe handling of fuels. **Note: These tips are written from the perspective and legislation in force in Finland. Always follow your local legislation, authority rules and guidance.** 

Always store hazardous chemicals in their intended, original and closed packaging. **Never transfer fuels or other hazardous chemicals into a drinking bottle or other food container.** If you have to transfer a chemical to another package, always remember to clearly mark at least the name of the chemical on the new package. Fuel storage containers must always be intended for this use. Certain fuels are strong solvents and can embrittle or even melt certain types of plastic.

### A safe way to store is

- A container suitable for fuel
- Cool, dry and well ventilated place
- Not in reach of children
- Protected from the sun
- Separated from food and animal feed
- Separated from sources of ignition and heat
- Separated from oxidizing substances such as strong cleaning agents

### **Examples of dangerous storage**

- A beverage bottle or other food container
- Unmarked container
- In front of a sunny window
- Near a barbecue/ grill
- Basement or attic space in shared use
- Trunk of a car
- In connection with children's outdoor toys or playgrounds

### Safe refueling

- Make sure that the canister is suitable for fuel storage (stainless steel, aluminum and plastic canisters approved for the purpose). There must be an inspection mark on the canisters.
- Ground the canister by placing it on the ground, do not refuel in the trunk of the car
- Refueling gun leans against the wall of the canister or fuel door
- Never smoke or talk on the phone while refueling

# **Properties of fuels**

Gasoline is an extremely flammable liquid even in small concentrations. It is hazardous to
health through the respiratory tract, skin and mouth. In addition, gasoline is hazardous for the
environment.



- Diesel is flammable and hazardous to health and the environment.
- Neste MY Renewable Diesel is not classified as flammable or hazardous to the environment but it can cause chemical pneumonia if swallowed and gets into the respiratory tract.



There may be different national requirements for storing hazardous chemicals in residential apartments (including terraces and other similar spaces). **Please check your local provisions and follow all safety rules.** Eg. in Finland you may store a maximum of 25 I of gasoline in residential apartments and 60 I of gasoline in a motor vehicle shelter in addition to the vehicle's fuel tank. Flammable liquids or liquefied petroleum gas must not be stored in shared basement or attic spaces.

### **Environment**

When entering the environment, even small amounts of fuel can cause harm to the environment. Fuels must not be released into the terrain, soil, waterways or sewers.

### **Fuel leaks**

If a leak occurs at home, try to prevent further damage and fuel entering the sewer or soil. Report the incident to the emergency center (unless the damage is very minor).

If the leak occurred at the distribution station, report the incident to the staff of the manned station as well. In Finland: If the station is unmanned, call Neste stations on +358 800 196 196. There is an absorbent at the distribution stations that can be used to control small leaks. In major malfunctions, press the emergency stop button found on the instrument panel.



## First aid

Fuels can cause both long-term and acute health hazards. If symptoms persist after first aid, see a doctor. Gasoline vapors can cause nausea and dizziness when inhaled, especially in unventilated spaces. In this case, the exposed person should be taken to fresh air.

Fuels can cause skin irritation. The exposed area is rinsed with plenty of water and washed with soap, and the contaminated clothing is removed immediately.

If swallowed, both gasoline, diesel and Neste MY Renewable Diesel are fatal. Seek medical attention immediately, do not under any circumstances try to induce vomiting.

### **Waste**

If the fuel is no longer suitable as fuel due to incorrect storage, water-down or some other factor, it is hazardous waste which must be delivered to a hazardous waste collection point. In Finland: Taking hazardous waste to collection is free of charge. Old fuel canisters are hazardous waste. The instructions for storing fuel waste are the same as for fuel. Do not mix hazardous waste. Chemicals can spontaneously ignite when they react with each other.

You can find Safety Data Sheets for fuels on Neste's website <a href="https://www.neste.com/products/product-and-safety-data-sheets">https://www.neste.com/products/product-and-safety-data-sheets</a>

General additional information on chemical safety https://chemicalsinourlife.echa.europa.eu/fi/