

About MHI

McDonald Home Inspection, Inc. is owned and operated by Jim McDonald, a life-long resident of Rockford, IL and vicinity with strong community ties. MHI is not a franchise with a revolving stable of novice inspectors. All home inspections are performed by me, an inspector with over 30 combined years in residential, multi-family, and commercial building, rehabilitation and inspection.

Contact MHI

To schedule your inspection (usually within 48 hours):

1. Call Jim at (815) 742-1083

OR

2. Send email to:

JIM@inspect4us.com

with your phone #s, current

Q&A: "Ask the Inspector's Inspector"

by Jim McDonald, Owner MHI / IL Licensed Home Inspector

McDonald Home Inspection (MHI) has started a new question and answer eNews series to help homeowners, home seekers, and realtors understand important tips about home inspections and maintaining your home, with the occasional humorous "home inspection nightmare" sprinkled in. Learn and enjoy!

Email with your good questions to answer in future issues: ASK@inspect4us.com

Visit the McDonald Home Inspection website to learn more: <http://www.inspect4us.com/>

Rotten Eggs

*From Loves Park. IL Homeowner
September 2009*

Q: After the buyer's home inspection, my husband and I (sellers) were notified of several deficiencies to be repaired. One was a gas leak located near the furnace, which we called the plumber to fix. I'm not sure what the inspector used to find it but the plumber followed the gas line with a lighter and found nothing. We called Nicor and it was found right away.

My question is wouldn't I have normally smelled the leak and how was it Nicor and the home inspector found it and not the

address, and property address and when you are hoping to schedule your inspection.

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plumber?

A: Although natural gas is by nature colorless and odorless, scents in the form of traces of mercaptans are usually added to identify leaks. This odor takes the form of rotting eggs or your husband sitting and watching TV.

More than likely the leak that the home inspector and Nicor found, while using a gas detector, is categorized as a grade 2 or 3 leak. Recognized as non-hazardous at the time of detection, but justifies a scheduled repair based on probable future hazard. If you smell gas it may be a grade 1 and recommended that you open all windows, do not operate any appliances, switches or phones and evacuate the area. Once in a safe area, contact your natural gas provider.

The stunt man you hired, who doubles as a plumber, should probably head to Hollywood.

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For more helpful links about systems that keep homes safe and running smoothly, visit “HELPFUL” tab on my website.

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