

## Colonial Pipeline Attack & Why You Should Not Hoard Gas in Plastic Tubs



A [ransomware attack](#) on [Colonial Pipeline](#) by hacking group [DarkSide](#) crippled gas and jet fuel supplies to nearly half the east coast. The pipeline is 5,500 miles long and can carry 3M barrels of fuel each day. The pipeline is owned by the Koch Industries (28%), South Korea's National Pension Service and Keats Pipeline Investors LP (23.44%), CDPQ Colonial Partners, LP (16.55%), Shell Pipeline Company, LP (16.55%), and IFM Colonial Pipeline (15.8%).

Colonial Pipeline [paid \\$4.4M](#) in ransomware to prevent a longer shutdown of services. DarkSide [announced](#) that their servers had been seized and their cryptocurrency drained. [Joseph Blunt](#), Colonial Pipeline President and CEO [will testify](#) to the House Homeland Security Congressional Committee regarding the cyberattack on June 9.

Last year, Colonial Pipeline gasoline pipeline leaked 1.2M gallons of gas into a nature preserve in North Carolina which [went undetected](#) for weeks until a group of teenagers passing through the area noticed liquid gurgling and spreading downhill. It took five days to repair a five-foot crack in the pipeline and five months to recover 800k gallons of gasoline. In 1996 Colonial [spilled 1M gallons of fuel](#) in South Carolina, pleaded guilty to criminal negligence and was fined \$41M under the Clean Water Act.

Both parties [regret all the attention](#) this breach as created. Blount stated, "We were perfectly happy having no one know who Colonial Pipeline was, and unfortunately that's not the case anymore," he said. "Everybody in the world knows."

At the time of the hack, the DarkSide criminal gang acknowledged the incident in a public statement. "Our goal is to make money and not creating



problems for society," [DarkSide wrote](#) on its website. "We do not participate in geopolitics, do not need to tie us with a defined government and look for... our motives," the group added.

The ransomware attack is the [second known](#) such incident aimed at a pipeline operator. Last year, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency reported a ransomware attack on a natural gas compression facility belonging to a pipeline operator. That caused a shutdown of the facility for two days, though the agency never revealed the company's name.

Meantime.... As gas shortages loomed and commuters lined up for hours to tap dwindling gas supplies, some artful motorists attempted to stash a bit of extra gasoline... Leading us to share...

### **Why you should not hoard gasoline in plastic tubs:**

- 1) Gasoline expires. It does not have an indefinite shelf life.
- 2) Gasoline eats through many plastics causing gas spills, unhealthy vapors, fire risk, general mess, and smell.
- 3) Even if the gasoline does not completely eat through the plastic, residue from the plastic can cause damage to the car engine.
- 4) Tubs full of gas are heavy. How will she lift it into the car?
- 5) Liquids slosh. Is there a lid somewhere? (a very tight lid?)
- 6) By the way, is she talking on her cell phone? Maybe planning to smoke a cigarette on the drive home? Gasoline is flammable.
- 7) If she is in a car accident or has to stop suddenly, um...
- 8) And....Okay, she fills the tub, lifts it with no problem, does not have to stop suddenly, gets it home, and it does not expire....

How does she get the gas from the plastic tub into the tank?

