

Friday gas leaks lead to evacuations, closures, and early dismissal
(MSC News)--Gas leaks Friday in two local counties lead to early class dismissals and to the evacuation of a Hospital.

According to an official at the Holton Community Hospital, the evacuation occurred around 12:45.

Also evacuated were the adjacent Holton Family Practice Clinic, Holton Dental Clinic, and the Medical Pharmacy.

The Holton Hospital has since reopened.

The Holton Police Department reports the gas leak happened after a meter was struck by a vehicle.

A gas leak in the Atchison County Community of Effingham earlier Friday sent students home early.

According to a post on the official Facebook page for the Atchison County Schools of USD 377, the decision leading to the 12:30 dismissal came following the report of a gas leak at the Atchison County Elementary School, in Effingham.

Afternoon preschool classes were also canceled.

Superintendent Dr. Andrew Gaddis Friday afternoon issued a statement saying that while 23 students, and 1 staff member, were evaluated after reporting symptoms consistent with exposure to natural gas, no one required transport for hospitalized care.

According to a spokeswoman for Kansas Gas Service, the issued in Effingham is being blamed on a furnace.

She also said crews worked in Holton Friday to make repairs.