



Natural Gas Public Awareness Safety Guide

Smell gas?

**Leave the premises and call us
immediately!**
(270) 887-4246
(270) 887-4232

LIVING NEAR A GAS PIPELINE

The route of a natural gas pipeline, called its right-of-way, is marked with warning signs. Warning markers show the product in the pipeline, the operator's name and its emergency telephone number. The markers, however, do not indicate the pipeline's depth or exact location. Natural gas pipeline markers are bright yellow.

For public safety, a pipeline's right-of-way must stay clear of all obstacles, because the pipeline's operator must be able to inspect the route visually for leaks and quickly make repairs if needed. Never put on a right-of-way any obstruction, such as a building, garden or storage shed, playground set, aboveground swimming pool, vehicle or machinery, trees or bushes, or brush and debris.

Before working near a natural gas pipeline right-of-way, always call 811 to notify the pipeline operator. Take special caution if drilling wells or boreholes, pile driving, blasting, storing flammable materials, burning waste or brush, cutting trees or pulling heavy loads near a pipeline right-of-way.



**Know what's below.
Call 811 before you dig.**

SMELL GAS? ACT FAST!

Natural gas in its original form has no smell. That is why we add a "rotten egg" odor to make you aware that gas is leaking.

IF YOU EVER SMELL NATURAL GAS, LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY AND TELL OTHERS TO LEAVE, TOO.

- **LEAVE** the area immediately
- **CALL** 911 and HWEA from a safe distance at **(270) 887-4246** or **(270) 887-4232**.
- **DO NOT** turn on or off any electric switch; this could spark, igniting the gas.
- **DO NOT** use a cell phone, telephone, garage door opener, doorbell or even a flashlight.
- **DO NOT** smoke, use a lighter or strike a match.
- **DO NOT** start or stop a nearby vehicle or machinery.
- **DO NOT** try to shut off a natural gas valve.

RECOGNIZING A GAS LEAK

There are a number of ways you can detect a natural gas leak:

SMELL

Recognizing the odor—which is similar to rotten eggs.

SIGHT

Seeing a white cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, dead vegetation or blowing dust.

SOUND

Hearing an unusual noise like roaring, hissing or whistling.

CALLING 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

State law requires calling 811 to have any buried utility lines located and marked before digging. Because natural gas and other underground utility lines are widespread, striking one can disrupt neighborhood utility services, result in large repair costs and fines, and cause injuries or loss of life.

Many home-improvement projects require calling 811, such as:

- Excavating for a driveway
- Installing a sprinkler system
- Digging holes for fence posts or a mailbox
- Anchoring supports for decks and swings
- Installing a retainer wall
- Contouring and landscaping
- Planting trees
- Removing tree roots
- Driving landscaping stakes

State law requires calling 811 at least two working days before digging is to begin, excluding weekends and legal holidays. However, some states require calling 72 hours or more in advance. The 811 center's customer representative can provide specifics.

With one call to 811, underground utility lines will be located and marked on your property at no charge to you. Natural gas lines will be marked with yellow flags, stakes or spray paint, and other utility lines will be marked different standard colors.

The 811 service does not locate customer-owned lines on a property or inside a building. You must hire a licensed plumber or contractor to mark those lines.