

Help Us Prevent Pipeline Damages.

Excavation accidents can be prevented if you **CALL 811** at least three business days before you dig to have all underground utilities located. It's convenient and easy, and it's the law!

Damaged facilities can result in:

- Serious injury or loss of life and loss of your support to your family
- OSHA and DOT investigations and wrongful-death lawsuits
- Fines for state or federal regulatory violations
- Long-term medical expenses from injuries and higher insurance rates
- Cancellation of a project and being barred from bidding on future work
- Liability claims for business interruptions
- Low productivity due to injuries or loss of equipment

Potential hazards may exist if natural gas lines are damaged because of:

- Dented, bent or scratched pipe
- Coating impairments, scrapes or punctures
- Broken tracer wires
- Separated coupling between sections of pipe
- Line collapse from voids created by improper backfilling
- Damage to cathodic protection anodes

If you disturb or damage any gas pipeline, including the pipe coating, federal law requires that you contact the pipeline operator immediately!

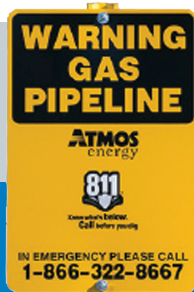
Do not attempt to repair the line.

Atmos Energy technicians will respond promptly and will make any needed repairs.

Before you excavate or bore, make sure all utilities have been notified and their underground lines have been located.

Check to be sure all marks have been made in the excavation area. Expose all gas pipelines by *hand digging* inside state specific *tolerance zones*. Barricade excavations where gas pipelines are exposed.

Always maintain a minimum separation of 12 inches or contact Atmos Energy for approval when paralleling or crossing a natural gas pipeline.



Know the Regulatory Requirements in Your State.
Information about state damage prevention regulations is listed below.

Colorado — Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies — Public Utilities Commission
www.colorado811.org/educational-resources

Advance Notice: Two days, not to include the day of notice
Marks Valid: 30 days from the date of the locate or until no longer visible, whichever comes first. A new locate request must be sought after this time has expired.
Tolerance Zone: 18 inches

Kansas — Kansas Corporation Commission
www.kansas811/resources
Advance Notice: Two full working, not including the day of notice
Marks Valid: 15 calendar days
Tolerance Zone: The area not less than 24 inches of the outside dimensions in all horizontal directions of an underground facility.

Kentucky — Kentucky Public Service Commission
www.kentucky811.org/the-dig-law
Advance Notice: Two working days
Marks Valid: 21 calendar days from the day of the initial request
Tolerance Zone: A distance not to exceed the combined width of the underground facility plus 24 inches measured from the outer edge of each side of the underground facility. "Working day" means every day, except Saturday, Sunday, and holidays established by federal or state statute. For purposes of measuring any period of time prescribed or allowed under the Underground Facility Damage Prevention Act of 1994, a working day shall commence at 12:01 a.m. eastern time and end at 12 midnight eastern time excluding the day the locate request was made.

Louisiana — Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections
www.sos.la.gov/OurOffice/CallBeforeYouDig
www.laonecall.com/dig-law.htm
Advance Notice: 48 to 120 hours
Marks Valid: 20 calendar days or as long as the marks are still visible
Tolerance Zone: 18 inches

Mississippi — Mississippi Public Service Commission
www.ms811.org/law
Advance Notice: Two working days
Marks Valid: 14 working days
Tolerance Zone: 18 inches

Tennessee — Tennessee Public Utility Commission
www.tennessee811.com
Advance Notice: Not less than three working days and not more than 10 working days
Marks Valid: 15 calendar days
Tolerance Zone: 24 inches

Texas — Railroad Commission of Texas
www.texas811.org/additional-resources
Advance Notice: Two working days, but not more than 14 days
Marks Valid: 14 working days
Tolerance Zone: 18 inches plus half the nominal diameter of the pipeline from the outside edge of either side of the pipeline

Virginia — State Corporation Commission of Virginia
www.va811.com
Advance Notice: Two working days, excluding the day of the call
Marks Valid: 15 working days
Tolerance Zone: 24 inches



atmosenergy.com



STAYING SAFE
When Digging Near Pipelines



Call 811 before you dig.
It's the law!

Atmos Energy is committed to being the safest natural gas provider in the nation. It's a commitment that we have made to our employees, customers and communities. We have rigorous monitoring, repair, and maintenance processes to ensure the safe operation of our pipelines.

Pipelines carry natural gas around the clock to more than 76 million homes and businesses in the United States. Because they are underground, you seldom notice these energy superhighways. In fact, pipelines are one of the safest forms of transportation. They are involved in far fewer serious incidents than trucks, railroads, ships or airplanes.



CUSTOMER SERVICE 888.286.6700
EMERGENCIES 866.322.8667

Never take anything for granted when you dig or bore.

CALL 811 at least three business days before you want to dig. You'll reach an 811 call center, which will coordinate with Atmos Energy, your electric company, and other utilities to mark all utility-owned underground pipes and cables. This will help you protect life and property and to avoid costly repairs.

Check with Atmos Energy before backfilling if you have any questions.

- Do not backfill if a potential hazard exists.
- Do not backfill with rocks or sharp material against natural gas pipelines.
- Use granular materials, such as sand or dirt, when backfilling.
- Backfilling should always be properly compacted.
- Do not drop or dump loads of backfill material on top of natural gas pipelines.

APWA Uniform Color for Marking Underground Utility Lines

-  **Red:** Electric
-  **Yellow:** Gas
-  **Orange:** Communications
-  **Blue:** Potable Water
-  **Purple:** Reclaimed water, irrigation
-  **Green:** Sewer
-  **White:** Proposed excavation
-  **Pink:** Temporary survey

Recognize Natural Gas Hazards

Because natural gas is lighter than air, gas leaking outside usually vents into the atmosphere and dissipates rapidly. Nevertheless, uncontrolled leaking natural gas can pose potential hazards:

- Escaping natural gas is highly flammable; it can easily ignite and burn.
- Natural gas can migrate into voids underground and openings, such as sewer lines.
- Natural gas that has accumulated in an area can explode if a spark or other source of ignition occurs.
- Leaking natural gas can also cause an explosion.
- Natural gas can displace oxygen in a confined space and can cause asphyxiation.
- Natural gas in many large transmission pipelines is not odorized and has no smell or color.

If a natural gas pipeline is struck or damaged and gas is escaping, CALL 911 immediately!

Secure the area to KEEP OUT unnecessary personnel, the media and the public. Call 911 and our emergency number at 866.322.8667.

Eliminate all ignition sources.

- Prohibit all smoking or open flames
- Remove all cellphones, pagers, two-way radios, and bullhorns
- If equipment is running, leave it on; if it is off, leave it off.
- Knock to warn residents to evacuate. Do not ring doorbells.

Do not turn off valves that may affect the flow of gas.

Never close or open any valve on a natural gas main, regulator station or transmission pipeline. Doing so can cause pressure problems and worsen the situation. Only Atmos Energy's technicians should operate these valves, especially if a pipeline has been damaged.

Locate Pipelines

You can view a map of the approximate routes of all natural gas and hazardous liquid transmission pipelines in an area and the operators of those lines on the government's National Pipeline Mapping System at:

<https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov>

The NPMS, however, does not show natural gas distribution mains and service lines or any other underground utility lines. A pipeline's route, called a right-of-way (ROW), is marked with warning signs. Markers for natural gas pipelines are bright yellow. Marker signs display the product in the pipeline, the pipeline operator's name, and its emergency telephone number. The location of pipeline warning markers cannot be relied upon to guide excavation. Only a professional line locator can accurately mark underground lines.



Pipeline Rights-of-Way

The pipeline right-of-way must remain clear of all obstacles for public safety. The pipeline operator must be able to inspect the route visually for leaks and to make repairs quickly if needed. Therefore, never—even temporarily—put on a right-of-way any obstruction, such as a vehicle or machinery, a trailer or portable building, above ground swimming pool, building materials, a refueling station, a tool or storage shed, trees or bushes, gravel or sand, or brush and debris.

How to detect a gas leak

You can detect escaping natural gas in a number of ways.

SMELL

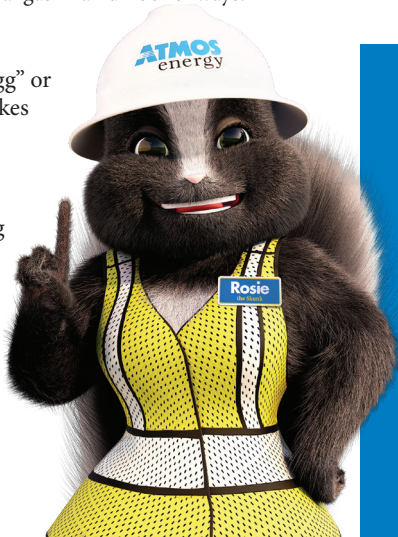
the distinctive “rotten-egg” or skunk-like odor that makes natural gas detectable.

LISTEN

for a hissing or whistling sound near a gas appliance or a roaring sound near a pipeline.

LOOK

for blowing dust, bubbling water or dead vegetation near a gas line.



Federal and state regulations require utilities to odorize natural gas so that “the gas is readily detectable by a person with a normal sense of smell.” Our technicians routinely monitor the odorant concentration with instruments throughout our pipeline system.

The sense of smell for most people is a highly reliable indicator of a natural gas release. However, continued exposure to the odorant can desensitize the sense of smell. Additionally, the smell of natural gas can be masked by other odors in the area. In certain rare situations, the odor intensity can be diminished by physical and/or chemical processes, such as when gas passes through certain soil conditions.

If you suffer from loss of smell, olfactory fatigue, or recurrent ailments, such as colds, sinus conditions or allergies, you might have a diminished capability to detect a natural gas leak. The Center for Disease Control has identified the loss of smell as a potential symptom of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. Using tobacco, alcohol, medications, or narcotics can lessen your ability to smell odorized gas.

In addition, residential methane detectors are available and can provide an additional ability to detect the presence of gas. These alarms must be selected and installed according to manufacturer's instructions. Learn more at www.gti.energy.

C Call 811 before digging.

A Allow required state time for marking.

R Respect the markings.

E Excavate carefully respecting the tolerance zones.

Smell Gas? Act Fast!

Natural gas in its original form has no smell or color. That's why we add a “rotten egg” or skunk-like odor to make you aware if gas is leaking.

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

- **LEAVE** the area immediately.
- **CALL** 911 and Atmos Energy from a safe distance at our emergency number 866.322.8667.
- **DO NOT** turn on or off any electric switch; this could cause a 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.

Once you are safely out of the area, call **911** and Atmos Energy's 24-hour emergency number **866.322.8667**. Atmos Energy will send a trained technician immediately to investigate at no cost.

Do not assume someone else will report the leak.

PIPELINE INSPECTION, PROTECTION, ENFORCEMENT, AND SAFETY (PIPES) ACT OF 2006
PUBLIC LAW 109-468-DEC. 29, 2006

(d) Prohibition Applicable to Excavators — A person who engages in demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction — (3) and who causes damage to a pipeline facility that may endanger life or cause bodily harm or damage to property — (A) may not fail to promptly report the damage to the owner or operator of the facility; and (B) if the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid, may not fail to promptly report to appropriate authorities by calling the 911 emergency telephone number.