

## DON'T TAKE CHANCES!

Protect yourself, your crew and the public. Dig-ins may result in loss of life, personal injury, property damage or liability for costly repairs.



WWW.SAFEGASOHIO.ORG



**OHIO GAS ASSOCIATION**  
137 E. State Street  
Columbus, OH 43215  
[www.safegasohio.org](http://www.safegasohio.org)

### PIPELINE PURPOSE AND RELIABILITY

According to National Transportation Safety Board statistics, pipelines are the safest and most efficient means of transporting natural gas and hazardous liquid products. The energy products carried in pipelines fuel much of our economy. In Ohio alone there are tens of thousands of miles of distribution pipelines providing natural gas to over 3 million users. In addition, Ohio has more than 6000 miles of transmission lines. The natural gas industry works very closely with government agencies and stays abreast of new security methods and technologies to ensure the highest levels of safety. Individual gas utilities also evaluate their security procedures on a regular basis and continually enhance safety programs as necessary and appropriate to meet their needs.

### HOW TO PREVENT DAMAGES TO GAS PIPELINES

If you plan on digging or moving earth in any way, call OHIO811 or 1.800.362.2764, or use the real-time, web-based ticket entry system ([www.oups.org/idig](http://www.oups.org/idig)) at least 48 hours, but no more than 10 days (excluding weekends and legal holidays), before digging so utilities can mark their underground lines. It's free and it's the law (Ohio Revised Code 3781.25 to 3781.32).

### HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION READY BEFORE YOU CALL OHIO811:

- County, City or Township
- Location of Work- Street Address
- Cross/Between Streets
- Distance from Cross Streets
- Lot # Subdivision
- Extent of Work Front/Rear/Both Sides
- Date of Excavation
- Start Time of Excavation
- Type of Work
- Means of Excavation
- Company Working For/Subcontractor Company
- Caller's Name
- Contractor's Name, Phone and Fax Number
- Contact Person/Additional Information

## STEPS TO A SAFE EXCAVATION:

**Survey and Mark** • Survey proposed excavation areas and mark the dig sites in white paint.

**Call Before You Dig** • Call before starting work as required by regulations.

**Wait the Required Time** • Allow utilities the full notification period to locate and mark underground lines.

**Protect and Preserve** • Protect and preserve the markings until they are no longer required for safe and proper excavation. If the markings become illegible, notify OHIO811 for remarking.

**Provide Clearance** • Maintain reasonable clearance between any subsurface utility facility and the cutting edge or point of powered equipment.

**Dig with Care** • Marking indicates only the approximate location of buried lines. It is required to hand dig 18 inches on each side of the facility, plus the width of the facility, in a careful and prudent manner to determine the precise location of underground utility lines. Upon hand digging, if you are still unable to determine the exact location of the lines, call OHIO811 or the utility company for assistance prior to any excavation.

## HOW TO RECOGNIZE A GAS LEAK

Although gas leaks are uncommon, it is a good idea to be able to recognize them. Some signs are obvious, some are not. Here are the signs to look for when you suspect a leak:

- Gas odor
- A blowing or hissing sound
- Water bubbling or being blown into the air at a pond, creek or river

- Fire coming from the ground or burning above the ground
- Brown patches in vegetation on or near a gas line
- Dry spot in moist earth

## IF YOU SUSPECT A GAS LEAK

- **Leave area at once!** Warn others to stay away.
- Do not use potential ignition sources, such as motor vehicles, telephones, doorbells or electric switches.
- Call the gas company and 911.
- **Never** try to extinguish a gas fire or operate any pipeline valves.

## WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

### If gas is escaping from a ruptured line:

- Turn off machinery and eliminate all sources of ignition.
- Evacuate the area.
- Do not attempt to make temporary repairs, extinguish a gas fire or operate any pipeline valves.
- Call the gas company and 911.

### If gas is not escaping but pipe has been struck, jarred, pulled, or if the coating or surface of a pipe has been damaged:

- Stop all work and call the gas company.
- Check for the smell or sound of escaping gas in the area.
- **Don't backfill!** Gas company must check the piping system.

## PIPELINE MARKERS

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requires the use of markers to indicate the approximate location of high pressure underground pipelines. These markers display the material transported, pipeline operator and the operator's emergency number.



The following members of the Ohio Gas Association would like to thank you for your continued support.

**All American Energy Cooperative**  
440.772.4340

**Arlington Natural Gas Company**  
419.299.3330

**City of Hamilton**  
513.785.7550

**Columbia Gas of Ohio**  
800.344.4077

**Community Energy Resources Cooperative**  
937.642.1826

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**TC Energy**  
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**Texas Gas Transmission**  
800.626.1948

**The Swickard Gas Company**  
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**Utility Pipeline, LTD.**  
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**Vectren - A CenterPoint Energy Company**  
800.227.1376

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