

Important Safety Information About The Gas Lines In Your Area

Natural Gas Safety

Most natural gas pipelines are buried underground to protect them from weather and provide reliable service. The gas industry invests billions of dollars to ensure the safety of these pipelines which are regulated by numerous federal and state agencies. We also work closely with your local fire and safety officials at least once a year, so they know how to respond to a gas emergency.

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a possible natural gas leak:

Look- Blowing dirt, bubbling water, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by live plants may indicate a leak.

Listen- An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.

Smell- In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless so gas utilities add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg like odor you associate with natural gas. Take action even if you detect only the faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Take Action For Safety

Here are some keywords to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected and to avoid creating a spark:

Leave - Leave the area immediately. Do not try to stop the leak.

Don't Touch - Do not smoke or use any phone, flashlight, light switch, appliance or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment.

After Leaving- Immediately notify us. (205) 841-6456.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon monoxide poisoning can occur if a natural gas appliance is operated in an enclosed space that has no access to fresh air. Because improper installation of gas appliances can lead to carbon monoxide build-up, it is important that only qualified, licensed service personnel install your gas appliances.

Carbon monoxide poisoning can be deadly. Early signs of carbon monoxide poisoning resemble flu symptoms and include headache, dizziness and/or nausea. If you have any of these symptoms get fresh air immediately.

If you purchase a carbon monoxide detector, the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission recommends that the model you choose meets the Underwriters Laboratory Standard 2034. Under no circumstances should a carbon monoxide detector be used as a substitute for regular inspections by qualified service personnel.

Maintaining Gas Lines

Fultondale Gas Board is responsible for maintaining the gas lines that carry natural gas to your meter. However, you are responsible for all gas lines on your side of the meter. These lines include all piping that goes:

- From your gas meter to the appliances on your property
- From a curb side meter to the home
- From your meter underground to any other building or gas appliance on your property

Not maintaining gas pipelines could result in potential hazards due to leakage. To properly maintain your gas lines, have them periodically inspected by a licensed, qualified professional who can find and correct any unsafe conditions which may exist.

Natural Gas Safety

Most natural gas pipelines are buried underground and have markers indicating only the general location of the pipelines. They also show the natural gas operator and emergency phone number. The markers do not show the depth of the pipelines or the number of pipelines. Underground gas lines on your property are not marked, so you should know the location of your gas meter and be cautious when digging in areas where the lines may connect or extend from the meter to your appliances.

A major cause of pipeline leaks is third-party damage which may include contractors or excavators working along roadways. Contractors or homeowners must always notify Alabama One Call by dialing 811 no less than two days before starting any excavation project.

What To Do if You Disturb A Pipeline Or Natural Gas Line

Even if you cause what appears to be only minor damage to the pipeline, immediately notify the pipeline company. A gouge, scrape, dent or crease to the pipe or coating may cause a future rupture or leak. It is imperative that the pipeline owner inspects and repairs any damage to the line or related apparatus. Many states have laws requiring damages to be reported to the facility owner. Do not attempt to make repairs to the line yourself.

Call Before You Dig

Pipelines may be located anywhere. This is why it is important to know where they are before digging for any reason.

When digging, excavating, drilling or moving earth in any way that could damage underground utility pipelines, you must contact Alabama One Call by dialing 811 no less than two days before starting the excavation. This will help avoid costly damage or injury.



Smart digger's best friend.
Call before you dig.

Every dig job requires a call, even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself and those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs. Smart digging means calling 811 before each job. Whether you are a homeowner or a professional excavator, one call to 811 gets your underground utility lines marked for free. Don't assume you know what is below. Protect yourself and those around you— call 811 every time.

We Need Your Help

The nation's infrastructures, including pipelines, are a matter of national security. If you witness suspicious activity on a pipeline right-of-way, please report it to the appropriate authorities as soon as possible or call Fultondale Gas Board at (205) 841-6456. Threat advisories may be found at the Department of Homeland Security's Web site at www.dhs.gov.

Gas Board of the City of Fultondale
1210 Walker Chapel Road
P.O. Box 849
Fultondale, AL 35068
(205)841-6456
www.fultondalegas.com

NP
WA
AT
UP
RR
RE
LI
LI
NG
GN
GAS

HIGH
PRESSURE
GAS BOARD
CITY OF
FULTONDALE