

# Pipeline Purpose and Reliability

Pipelines carry natural gas that fuels our homes and businesses, providing heat and vital resources to manufacturing. Our pipelines and facilities are designed, installed, operated, maintained and monitored according to the government's safety requirements.



## NATURAL GAS FACTS

Natural gas is lighter than air. Therefore, if it escapes from a pipeline, it will rise into the atmosphere and dissipate.

**Health hazards:** Extremely high concentrations may cause irritation or asphyxiation

**Fire hazards:** Extremely flammable and easily ignited by heat, sparks or flames



## WHAT WE'RE DOING TO KEEP YOU SAFE

We work diligently to help maintain the safe and reliable operation of our natural gas distribution and transmission pipeline systems through a variety of measures, including:

Routine inspections to check the integrity of pipelines, valves and other equipment

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Maintenance and testing programs

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Patrols of pipeline rights of way for encroachment and erosion

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Verification of safe natural gas pipeline operating pressures

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Corrosion protection

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Pipeline markers and identification

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Our goal is to proactively identify and resolve any issues that could potentially pose a threat to public safety.

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## CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG



To help prevent serious personal injury, property damage and damage to underground facilities, you must call 811 at least 3 business days before starting the project.

## HOW TO IDENTIFY A NATURAL GAS LEAK



### SMELL

Natural gas smells like rotten eggs



### LOOK

Natural gas leaks often cause bubbling water, blowing dirt or dead plants. You may also see sinkholes and/or exposed pipe



### LISTEN

Natural gas leaks often cause a hissing sound near a natural gas line or meter

## IF YOU SUSPECT A NATURAL GAS LEAK

- **Leave** the area immediately
- **DO NOT** use anything electrical that may create a spark — this includes a cellphone
- **Call 911**
- **DO NOT** attempt to locate the source of a leak
- **DO NOT** attempt to stop a leak
- **Call 811** before you dig anywhere on your property - no matter how small

### Get more information

This is very important information.  
Please translate, if necessary,  
and share with others.

Piedmont Natural Gas does not maintain customers' natural gas piping after or downstream of the meter. You should maintain such piping by periodically inspecting for leaks. If the piping is metal, you should also check for signs of corrosion. You should repair such piping if corrosion or leaks are discovered. For assistance locating, inspecting or repairing buried piping, please contact Piedmont Natural Gas or a licensed heating/plumbing contractor. You should always call 811 prior to digging. Once your lines are marked, always dig by hand if digging near natural gas piping.

Visite [piedmontng.com](http://piedmontng.com) para ver la versión completa en español.