



General Pipeline Safety Guidelines

EXCAVATION SAFETY

Call before you dig

Await the required time

Respect the marks

Excavate with care

Call the National Referral number
1-888-258-0808 or your local
One Call System

Generally 24 to 72 hours depending
on state requirements

Flags, paint, or other markers
(normally yellow for pipelines)

Pothole or hand dig to determine
exact location of pipelines

Pipelines are an essential part of our transportation system. We depend on them every day to transport gas and liquid products to our homes and businesses. Pipeline companies perform ongoing maintenance to ensure the reliability of their systems. Following the guidelines above will help prevent pipeline emergencies and keep pipelines the safest method for transporting gas and liquid products. Please remember to always call the one-call system before you dig.

To respond in an emergency:

1. Know the hazards

Natural gas and other petroleum products will ignite and burn. If exposed to the skin, serious irritations may occur. Escaping gasses can displace oxygen.

2. Recognize unsafe conditions

Pipelines that are: leaking, damaged, insufficiently supported, exposed to high heat, or threatened by natural forces, are all unsafe conditions.

Any damaged or weakened pipeline must always be checked by the pipeline company for remaining strength. Even very minor damages can cause future leaks or ruptures and must be investigated.

Pools of liquid, blowing dirt, hissing sounds, vapor clouds, gaseous odors, bubbles in standing water, dead vegetation, and frozen soil or ice next to pipelines are all signs of a pipeline leak and should be treated as an emergency.

3. Respond immediately

Immediately leave the area while avoiding any action that may cause sparks. Abandon all equipment and get a safe distance away.

Call 911 and then immediately notify the pipeline company.

Keep others away until emergency officials arrive. Stay upwind, do not attempt to operate pipeline valves or extinguish any pipeline fires.

Additional safety information can be found at:
www.pipelineawareness.org



This message is sponsored by the
Pipeline Association for Public Awareness
and its member pipeline companies
www.pipelineawareness.org