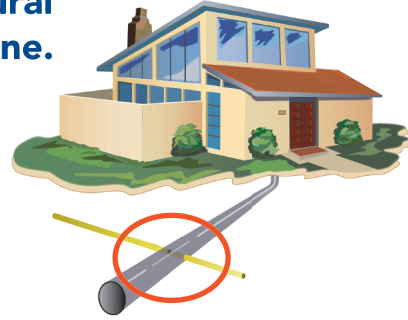




Before Clearing A Clogged Sewer Line Make Sure It Isn't Blocked By A Natural Gas Pipeline.



If you need to clear an exterior sewer line located outside of a structure, be aware that the blockage may be near, or transected by, a natural gas pipeline.

In the rare instance where a natural gas pipeline transects the sewer line, an auger "snake" could cause damage to the natural gas line when clearing the sewer line. Hitting a natural gas line may endanger life, cause bodily harm, or property damage.

Important: Sewer Lateral Information

SoCalGas® operates underground natural gas pipelines in areas where you or others may provide exterior plumbing services.



Important Safety Steps



When clearing a blockage in any exterior sewer line, remember to follow these important safety steps:

- Always use a cleanout outside of the structure to auger the sewer line, if one is available. Using an exterior cleanout will lessen the chance of natural gas entering into a building or structure in the unlikely event that a natural gas line is damaged while clearing the blockage.
- Exercise caution when using a power-driven tool to clear the blockage. Any spark-producing device may cause ignition if natural gas is present.

How To Recognize And Respond To A Natural Gas Leak

Be alert to any of the signs you may see, hear or smell when there is a leak.

LOOK

- Bubbles rising through standing water or in toilet bowls.

LISTEN

- A hissing or whistling sound at the sewer cleanout, sewer vents, or inside the structure served by the sewer line.

SMELL

- The distinctive odor* of natural gas at the sewer cleanout, sewer vents, or inside the structure served by the sewer line.

* Some persons may not be able to smell the odor because they have a diminished sense of smell due to COVID-19, olfactory fatigue (normal, temporary inability to distinguish an odor after prolonged exposure to it), or because the odor is being hidden by other odors present, like cooking, damp, musty or chemical odors. In addition, certain pipeline and soil conditions can cause odor fade (the loss of odorant so that it is not detectable by smell).

If you damage a pipeline or suspect a natural gas leak:

- **IMMEDIATELY EVACUATE THE AREA.** Call SoCalGas at **1-800-427-2200** from a safe location.
- **Call 911** promptly, from a safe location, if there is damage resulting in a natural gas leak that may endanger life, cause bodily harm or property damage.
- **DO NOT** smoke or light a match, candle or other flame.
- **DO NOT** turn electrical devices or light switches on or off, operate motorized equipment or vehicles, or use any device that could cause a spark.
- **DO NOT** attempt to control the leak or repair the damaged pipe or meter. Natural gas leaking from a plastic pipe can create static electricity that can ignite the natural gas.

Immediately report scrapes, dents or damage to pipe or its coating by calling SoCalGas immediately at 1-800-427-2200. No damage is too small to report.



Report a pipeline emergency
1-800-427-2200 or 911

CONTACT 811

Prevent injuries and costly repairs, contact 811 before you dig.

Visit california811.org or dial **811** to submit a location request at least two business days before digging. Utility owners will be contacted to mark the location of all utility-owned lines.

For more safety information, visit socalgas.com/SewerLine.

