

Contact 811 Before You Dig – It’s the Law!

With approximately 100,000 miles of natural gas pipelines across the SoCalGas service area, unmarked pipelines can be located almost anywhere. Digging and excavation near buried pipelines are major causes of pipeline damage and can result in injuries, costly repairs, heavy fines, natural gas service disruptions, and project delays. Regardless of the size or scope of the work, help protect yourself, your employees, and the community by contacting **811** to have underground pipelines marked.



MARK OUT your proposed excavation area. Use white paint or provide other markings.



CONTACT 811 by submitting a locate request online at california811.org or by calling **811** at least two business days before digging, not including the date of notification. SoCalGas will be contacted, as well as other utility owners, to mark the location of all utility-owned lines for FREE. Check utility responses to your locate ticket by visiting DigAlert.org or USANorth811.org.



WAIT TO DIG until we either mark our natural gas pipelines or you are advised that the area is clear.



CONFIRM the utilities have marked the proposed work area. Natural gas is indicated in yellow.



USE ONLY HAND TOOLS at least 24 inches on each side of the field marking(s) to carefully expose the exact locations of the marked utility. If the utility line size is specified, use only hand tools 24 inches plus one-half the specified size on each side of the marking(s).

A locate ticket with utility information is valid for **28 days**. If work will continue beyond that period, the ticket **must** be updated before the 28-day limit.

NOTE: SoCalGas is responsible for marking natural gas pipelines up to the gas meter. To locate and mark customer-owned lines, which typically run from the meter to natural gas equipment, contact a qualified pipe-locating professional.



Contractors may be liable for repair costs and penalties if a natural gas line is damaged and **811** wasn’t contacted at least two business days in advance. Negligent excavators may also be reported to the Underground Safety Board and face penalties of up to **\$100,000**.

Recognize a Natural Gas Leak

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



Look

If you see a damaged connection to a natural gas appliance, dirt/water blowing into the air, a dry patch of grass, fire, or an explosion near a pipeline



Listen

If you hear unusual sounds like hissing or whistling



Smell

If you smell the distinctive odor* of natural gas

* Some persons may not be able to smell the odor because they have a diminished sense of smell due to a respiratory illness or another physical condition, 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. 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 smell natural gas, suspect a leak, or damage has occurred, 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 damage property.

DO NOT smoke, light a match or candle, or create any other flame.

DO NOT turn electrical appliances or lights 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 a damaged pipe or meter. Natural gas leaking from a plastic pipe can create static electricity, which may ignite the gas.

REPORT any pipeline damage by calling SoCalGas immediately at **1-800-427-2200**. Even a slight gouge, scrape, or dent to a pipeline may harm the integrity of the pipe or cause a dangerous leak in the future.

Utilities Color Codes & What They Mean

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| Red: Electric | Purple: Reclaimed water |
| Yellow: Natural gas, oil, steam | Green: Sewer |
| Orange: Communications | Pink: Temporary markings |
| Blue: Water | White: Proposed excavation |



Locate Major Pipelines Near You

High-visibility markers like this identify the general location of major natural gas pipeline routes. These markers show approximate locations only, do not indicate pipeline depth or the number of pipelines present, and should never replace contacting **811**. View approximate locations of major pipelines at socalgas.com/Map or through the National Pipeline Mapping System at npms.phmsa.dot.gov.

Provide Clear Access To Pipelines

SoCalGas operates underground natural gas pipelines in residential and commercial areas where you or your company may receive service and/or perform digging or excavation. We monitor natural gas quality and add a distinctive odor to help detect leaks. Additionally, we routinely perform pipeline safety activities, including patrolling, inspecting, testing, repairing, and replacing pipelines.

To conduct this work or respond to pipeline emergencies, we must be able to access the pipeline right-of-way. Please keep areas around our pipelines clear of shrubs, trees, fences, and other structures.

To report a pipeline emergency, call **911** and SoCalGas at **1-800-427-2200**.



For more safety information, scan the QR code or visit socalgas.com/Contractor811.