



KEEP YOUR SCHOOL SAFE

Important Natural Gas Safety Information



FIND PIPELINES NEAR YOUR SCHOOL

One in every 20 schools is located within a half mile of a petroleum or natural gas transmission pipeline or above ground pipeline facility.

Pipeline markers indicate only the approximate, not exact, location of buried pipelines. Markers also do not indicate the depth or number of pipelines in the area. These yellow markers display the pipeline operator's name and a phone number to call in case of emergency.

You can view the approximate locations of major natural gas pipelines at socalgas.com/Map or on the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) [website at npms.phmsa.dot.gov](https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov).

These maps only indicate the general location of pipelines and should never be used as a substitute for contacting 811 at least two business days before digging.

PIPELINE MARKINGS & WHAT THEY MEAN



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

High-visibility markers, like this one, mark the general location of major pipeline routes. Contact **811** if you need accurate pipeline location marked.



CONTACT 811 BEFORE YOU DIG - IT'S THE LAW!

Starting a school garden or doing some work around your school that requires digging? If so, you will need to contact 811 to learn where utility-owned pipelines are to keep everyone safe during your projects.



MARK OUT your proposed project area in white paint or provide other suitable markings.



CONTACT 811 Underground Service Alert (USA) for a ticket at least two business days before digging. Request a ticket at california811.org or dial **811**.



USE ONLY HAND TOOLS within 24 inches on each side of marked utility lines to carefully expose the exact locations of all lines.

Check utility responses to your 811 ticket by visiting DigAlert.org or USANorth.org.

NOTE: SoCalGas does not mark customer-owned natural gas lines, which typically run from the meter to natural gas equipment. To have customer-owned lines located and marked before a project, contact a qualified pipe-locating professional.

Learn more at socalgas.com/811



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, dead or dying vegetation, 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, olfactory fatigue (normal, temporary inability to distinguish an odor after prolonged exposure to it), a temporary loss of smell due to COVID-19, or because the odor is being masked or hidden by other odors that are present, such as cooking, damp, musty or chemical odors. In addition, certain conditions in 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 or cause bodily harm or property damage.

DON'T smoke, or light a match, candle or create any other flame.

DON'T turn electrical appliances or lights on or off, operate motorized equipment or vehicles, or use any device that could cause a spark.

DON'T attempt to control the leak or repair a damaged pipe or meter. Natural gas leaking from a plastic pipe can create static electricity that can ignite the natural 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.

HELP YOUR STUDENTS LEARN MORE ABOUT NATURAL GAS SAFETY

Natural Gas 101

Natural gas does many things. It helps us heat our homes. It helps us cook our food. Pipelines carry natural gas under the ground. SoCalGas checks the pipelines to make sure there are no leaks. These tests help keep you safe. You can also help keep yourself safe around natural gas. [Read more to learn how!](#)

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When Should You Contact 811?

Fill in the blanks using the word bank to find out! An adult should contact 811 before your family...

- Plants a _____ or _____
- Builds a _____ around your yard.
- Puts in a new _____

Word Bank

- FENCE
- DIG
- TREE
- MAN BOX

Tic-Tac-Toe

You've heard of 911. But have you heard of 811? 811 is a special number. It helps protect pipes under the ground. An adult should contact 811 before you dig a hole. They can call or visit california811.org. Tic-tac-toe can help you learn. Just use B and 1 in place of X and O.

What is Natural Gas?

Natural gas plays an important role in our lives. Gas firefighters and students keep us warm in the winter. Some stoves also use natural gas to boil water and cook food. Natural gas travels through underground pipelines to reach our homes. SoCalGas tests these pipelines regularly to make sure there are no dangerous natural gas leaks. There are also steps you can take to stay safe around natural gas. [Keep reading to learn how!](#)

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How to Sense a Gas Leak

Natural gas leaks can happen outside or indoors. Fortunately, recognizing the signs of a natural gas leak is as easy as using your senses. Place the words into the correct order to create a sentence and find out how your senses can help you.

1. Tap into natural gas detectors.
2. If it smells, look a smart doggie. You could say he is very hot if it smells like hot oil.
3. Look for things that gas may be seeping natural.
4. Hear what whistling may. This sounds like _____.
5. Notice appliances may a natural leak. An be unusual from that use gas use.
6. Use a leak building began liquid Water on gas stopped natural.
7. If it is too blowing could the up natural.
8. If it is too blowing could the up natural.
9. If it is too blowing could the up natural.
10. If it is too blowing could the up natural.

Steps to Safety

What should you do if you see bubbling water, hear a strange sound or smell an unusual natural gas odor? When you notice signs of a natural gas leak, it's important to avoid danger by following these steps. Read about each step and then solve the maze.

Do not smoke cigarettes, use matches, lighters, candles, or use any electrical items in the area.

Get an adult to help you if you are not sure how to do it.

Call a parent, a teacher or another adult about what you smelled or heard.

How to Dig Safely

Safe digging starts with 811. But it doesn't end there. Once the flags are in place, you need to choose the right flag. A flag placement can be dangerous if it is not done right. If you dig too close to a flag, within 3-4 inches of a flag, only one shovel can be used. There are three types of shovels, and these hand tools are used in three ways. See if you can find them all!

All About Natural Gas

Did you know we use natural gas every day? It helps heat our homes and cook food. Natural gas flows through pipelines under the ground. These pipelines carry it to houses and buildings. A natural gas leak can be very dangerous. That's why SoCalGas checks its pipelines often. It's also why you should know about natural gas safety.

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811 Makes Safety Fun

An adult should always contact 811 at least two business days before you start a digging project. They can go online at california811.org or dial 811. Workers will come place flags where there are pipes and wires underneath. But what do the flags mean? Each type of underground line has its own color. Unassemble the letters to learn what each color means. Then color the flags. And remember! Leave the flags in place until you're done digging!

Electric lines DRE	Natural gas, oil or steam ENOVLL	Communications RANGE	Water LBEU	Reclaimed water 8PLEPU	Sewer EENGR	Temporary markings XANP
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Find the Differences

The family in the pictures contacted 811 so they could plant a garden. These pictures don't match. Find the 10 differences and circle them.

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DOWNLOAD FREE ACTIVITY WORKSHEETS. Visit socalgas.com/SchoolSafety



PIPELINE MAINTENANCE AND YOUR SAFETY

SoCalGas pipelines deliver natural gas to approximately 22 million residential and business customers. We routinely perform pipeline safety tasks - including patrolling, inspecting, testing, repairing, and replacing pipelines - and have ongoing technical training and testing for employees.

Our integrity management plans outline our ongoing safety and maintenance activities and are available for review. To perform important pipeline inspections, we use advanced safety tools to monitor pipeline conditions and to verify that the pipelines are being maintained safely. Since we must be able to access the pipeline right-of-way, the area around our pipelines must be clear of shrubs, trees, fences and other structures.

For more safety and prevention information, visit socalgas.com/safety

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IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Hearing Impaired,
call TDD/TTY
1-800-252-0259

Asistencia en español
1-800-342-4545

CONTACT 811:
Visit california811.org
or call 811

FOR SAFETY
INFORMATION:
socalgas.com/BeSafe

PARA INFORMACIÓN
DE SEGURIDAD EN
ESPAÑOL:
socalgas.com/Seguridad





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