

PIPELINE PRESS

Brought to you by New Jersey's natural gas utilities

Marking the Way to Safety

Pipeline warning signs and markers play a key role in natural gas safety. Since most transmission pipelines are buried underground, yellow signs or posts are used to indicate their presence in an area along the pipeline route. Federal law requires the placement of these markers.



Pipeline markers are located at frequent intervals along transmission lines. They can be found where the pipeline intersects a street, highway, railway or waterway, and at other prominent points along the route. These warning signs do more than just mark the spot – they identify the product transported in the line and provide the name and telephone number of the pipeline operator to call in the event of an emergency – 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It's important to remember that these markers only signify the presence of a pipeline and do not indicate its depth or exact location. And, since vandalism or damage can occur to these markers, never rely solely on their presence or absence to indicate a pipeline location. Always call New Jersey One Call at **811** or **1-800-272-1000**, before you dig near a pipeline marker, or anywhere else. It's FREE and it's the LAW!

It is a federal offense to willingly damage, remove or destroy a pipeline marker. If you notice one has been tampered with, please call your local



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Careless digging can cause disruption of vital services, property damage and even injury.



New Jersey Natural Gas

Gas Leaks: **1-800-GAS-LEAK**
(1-800-427-5325)

All other calls: **1-800-221-0051**
www.njliving.com



Elizabethtown Gas

Gas Leaks: **1-800-492-4009**

All other calls: **1-800-242-5830**
www.elizabethtowngas.com



PSEG

Gas Leaks: **1-800-436-PSEG**
(1-800-436-7734)

All other calls: **1-800-436-PSEG**
(1-800-436-7734)

www.pseg.com



South Jersey Gas

Where we put all of our energy®

Gas Leaks: **1-800-582-7060**

All other calls: **1-888-766-9900**
www.sjindustries.com/sjg

Natural Gas Meter Safety

Natural gas meters are installed to measure the consumption of natural gas at your home or place of business. Most meters are located outside; however some may be installed inside, perhaps in a garage or basement.

Please exercise care with your natural gas service equipment. Be cautious when mowing your lawn or operating other equipment around your meter. Keep the surrounding area free of overgrown brush, debris and other obstructions that could corrode the meter and cause a possible natural gas leak. Never tie anything – including a dog leash, a guy wire or ground wire to a meter or its piping as this may cause a hazardous condition. Also, do not lean ladders or any metal objects against the meter.

Please take the time to ensure a clear path to your meter. Following this advice will give meter readers and other technicians easy and safe access in case of an emergency. If you feel your natural gas meter is in an unsafe location, such as near a driveway or under a deck, call your local natural gas utility for an assessment.

Ask the Safety Experts

What is a pipeline ROW?

The strip of land over a transmission pipeline is known as the pipeline right-of-way or ROW. Your local utility maintains and patrols the ROW in order to ensure the safety of the pipeline.

What do I need to do if the ROW is on, or near, my property?

If the ROW crosses your property it is essential that your local utility have direct access to it at all times. Please be sure that any fenced area has a gate to allow utility employees easy, unobstructed access. The ROW must remain free of structures or obstructions so that your natural gas utility can operate, test, inspect and maintain the transmission line. Prior to doing ANY work in the ROW, you must contact your natural gas utility at the number listed in this newsletter.

Winter Meter Care

Winter will be here before you know it. When winter weather hits, don't forget your meter as you're shoveling snow. Follow these tips for safety's sake:

- **Keep your meter area free of snow and ice.**
- **Use a broom to carefully remove snow from your meter.**
- **If you have any ice from your roof hanging over your meter, remove it carefully.**
- **Do not use sharp tools or instruments on or near the meter.**
- **Take care when shoveling, plowing or using a snowblower in the area around your meter.**

Meter Tampering Is Illegal

Tampering with natural gas meters and pipelines endangers life and property. This unlawful act may lead to discontinuance of service, criminal prosecution or both. If you know of someone tampering with natural gas lines or meters, please call your local natural gas utility

Learn to Recognize a Natural Gas Pipeline Leak

Smell – The distinctive odor of rotten eggs indicates a possible natural gas leak.

Look – A slow leak may cause vegetation to discolor or die. A larger leak may form a dense mist above the pipeline and may even disturb the soil covering the pipeline.

Listen – You may be able to hear a leak. Anything other than a very small leak may be quite loud and high-pitched as the natural gas escapes under pressure.