



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

See the important enclosed safety insert for more details.



NATIONAL
SAFETY
MONTH 09

Natural Gas Safety in the Workplace

June is National Safety Month and the perfect time to re-evaluate your safety plans. At NJNG, we're committed to doing our part to help you use natural gas safely and efficiently in your day-to-day operations.

Natural gas is a clean, efficient and safe fuel, making it a popular choice in a wide variety of commercial and industrial operations. Like all forms of energy, it must be handled properly. Following these simple guidelines can help to ensure the safety of your facility and employees while working around natural gas equipment.

Have your natural gas equipment inspected by a qualified technician at least once a year.

Keep all combustible materials (chemicals, papers, boxes, solvents, etc.) at a safe distance from this equipment.

Make sure your entire facility is adequately vented, and that all pipes and flues are in good condition.

Follow all manufacturers' recommendations for cleaning and maintenance of natural gas equipment.

Install carbon monoxide detectors in all areas of your facility.

Never hang tools or other devices on natural gas pipes and meters.

Check pilot lights on natural gas appliances to make sure they are burning blue. A very small amount of yellow or orange is also acceptable. Appliances with steady yellow or orange burning flames should be serviced by a qualified professional immediately.

Join us every day as a partner in safety to help protect your employees, your business and our communities.

Report ALL Natural Gas Leaks

The ability to recognize and react to a potential natural gas emergency can help keep your employees safe and minimize any damage to your facility.

A very distinct odorant, smelling like rotten eggs, is added to natural gas to help identify a possible leak. Other signs include a hissing or high-pitched sound that could indicate escaping natural gas. Dirt blowing from a hole in the ground, discolored or dead vegetation or a dense mist above the pipeline can also signal a problem.

If you suspect a natural gas leak:

Evacuate everyone from the building or area immediately and call NJNG from a safe location at 1-800-GAS-LEAK (1-800-427-5325).

Do not attempt to locate the leak or to shut off any natural gas valves or equipment.

Remove any cigarettes or other smoking materials from the area, and THEN extinguish them.

Do NOT use matches, lighters or any open flames or activate light switches, electrical appliances, flashlights, doorbells or garage door openers, as they could create a spark.

Do NOT use telephones (cellular or cordless included) on the premises where the leak is suspected. Phones can create a spark.

Do not start any vehicles in the area.

Do not re-enter the building until NJNG has declared it to be safe.

For your safety, we promptly investigate suspected natural gas leaks as a FREE service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

If you have any questions or concerns about natural gas safety, call us toll-free at 1-800-221-0051 or e-mail us at customerservice@njng.com. Additional information is available in the My Safety section of our Web site, njng.com.

Priority Service for Life-Sustaining Equipment

If someone in your home or an employee in your business uses life-sustaining equipment, please call our customer service department at **1-800-221-0051** and tell us about your situation. We'll make restoration of your natural gas service a priority in the event of a service disruption.



Call NJNG Before You Build!

When you're planning an addition or renovation to your home or business, even including a deck or patio, remember to call NJNG at **1-800-221-0051** before you start. It's dangerous and illegal to build any structure on top of, or around, an outside natural gas meter. We'll move our natural gas meter and associated piping, at your cost, if your new structure would infringe on our meter.

If you build first, the costs associated with moving our meter and piping will, most likely, be higher than relocating them before construction AND access may be more difficult. We'll work with you, or your builder, to find a safe solution to accommodate your new project.

NJNG is required by law to terminate natural gas service to any customer whose installation has become unsafe or inaccessible as a result of customer construction activities.

Inspect Your Piping

While NJNG's delivery system extends to your natural gas meter, you are responsible for the piping from the meter to your appliances and equipment. These pipes can include fuel lines both inside and outside your home or business and buried lines leading to outdoor appliances or remote structures.

Follow these safety tips for customer-owned piping to help prevent possible damage to your home and property:

- **Have a plumber locate and inspect buried natural gas pipes on your property and keep a diagram for future use.**
- **Periodically inspect your piping for leaks, corrosion or damage.**
- **Have a licensed contractor make repairs immediately when necessary.**

Safety is our top priority at NJNG. Be a partner in safety and make it yours too.

Prevent the Silent Killer – Practice Carbon Monoxide Safety

Fuel-burning equipment and appliances such as furnaces, space heaters and grills that aren't working properly or are misused may produce carbon monoxide (CO). This colorless, odorless gas can build to potentially dangerous levels in your home or business.

If inhaled in large quantities for a prolonged period, CO can cause unconsciousness, brain damage and even death. Symptoms of CO poisoning are often mistaken for those of the flu – headaches, nausea, vomiting, dizziness and fatigue – and tend to clear up when you breathe fresh air.

Proper use and maintenance of your natural gas equipment and appliances can reduce the chance of CO poisoning. Have a certified technician inspect your equipment annually. (This tuneup can also help you save on your energy bills.) Call for service immediately if you think there's a problem. Be sure to install CO detectors that meet the Underwriters Laboratories Standard UL 2034 or the current IAS 6-96 safety standard.

For additional information, call the New Jersey Poison Control Hotline at **1-800-POISON-1 (1-800-764-7661)** or visit My Safety at njng.com.

How To Reach Us

Call us:

Toll-free:

1-800-221-0051

People with hearing and speech impairments (TTY/TDD):

1-800-223-0024

Out of state:

1-732-938-7977

Report a gas leak:

1-800-GAS-LEAK (1-800-427-5325)

Call before you dig:

811 or 1-800-272-1000

E-mail us:

customerservice@njng.com

Visit our Web site:

www.njliving.com

Write to us:

New Jersey Natural Gas

1415 Wyckoff Road,

P.O. Box 1464, Wall, NJ 07719

