



Pipelines In Our Community

There are over 2.4 million miles of pipelines in the United States made up of liquid production, gathering and transmission lines; gas production, gathering, storage and transmission lines and gas distribution lines. According to the National Transportation Safety Board statistics, pipelines are the safest method of transporting the products we use from each of these systems.

Transmission pipelines are made of steel, covered with a protective coating and buried underground where they quietly and efficiently deliver a multitude of products throughout our nation.

Distribution lines can be made of either steel or high-strength plastic and provide the final link in delivering the vital resources needed to heat our homes and businesses, fuel the factories that produce other energy sources and provide a constant support to our way of life.

In our country, we transport and use over 19 million barrels of liquid products every day and over 21 trillion cubic feet of natural gas every year. To ensure these products reach us safely, pipelines are tested and maintained through the use of cleaning devices, diagnostic tools and cathodic protection, which provides crucial rust-inhibitive activities through a pipeline system.

Pipelines are a critical part of our national infrastructure and rely on everybody's safety awareness to remain our silent partner in fueling this country's ongoing progress.

Pipelines Markers

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requires the use of signs to indicate the location of underground pipelines. Markers like these are located on road, railroad, and navigable waterway crossings. Markers are posted along gas transmission & liquids pipeline rights-of-way. Markers are typically not present for gathering or distribution pipeline systems.

The markers display:

- The material transported
- The name of the pipeline operator
- The operator's emergency number



Marker Information

- Indicates area of pipeline operations
- Does not show exact location
- Does not indicate depth (Never assume pipeline depth)
- Does not indicate pipeline pressure
- May have numerous markers in single right of way
- May have numerous companies in single right of way

Online Resources

National Response Center
www.nrc.uscg.mil

Federal Office of Pipeline Safety
www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline

Infrastructure Protection - NIPC
www.infragard.net

National Pipeline Mapping System
www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov



Call Before You Dig

Statistics indicate that damage from excavation related activities is a leading cause of pipeline accidents. If you are a homeowner, farmer, excavator, or developer, we need your help in preventing pipeline emergencies.

1. Call your state's One-Call Center before excavation begins - regulatory mandate as state law requires.
2. Wait the required amount of time.
3. A trained technician will mark the location of the pipeline at no cost to you.
4. Respect the marks.
5. Dig with care.



Dig Safely.®

National One-Call Referral Number
1-888-258-0808

National One-Call Dialing Number:



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

For more details visit: www.call811.com

Signs of a Release

Sight*

- Liquid on the ground
- Rainbow sheen on water
- Dead vegetation in an otherwise green area
- Dirt blowing into the air
- White vapor cloud
- Mud or water bubbling up
- Frozen area on ground

* Signs vary based upon product



Liquid on the ground



Mud or water bubbling up



Fire or explosion



Rainbow sheen on water



White vapor cloud



Dead vegetation in a green area

Sound

- A hissing or roaring sound

Smell

- Odors such as gas or oil
- Natural gas is colorless and odorless - Unless mercaptan has been added (Note: A "rotten egg odor")

Other - Near Pipeline Operations

- Burning eyes, nose or throat
- Nausea



What to do if a Leak Occurs

- Evacuate immediately upwind
- Eliminate ignition sources
- Advise others to stay away
- Call 911/local emergency number
- Call pipeline company - number on warning marker
- Call collect if necessary
- Make calls from safe distance not "Hot Zone"
- Give details to pipeline operator
 - Your Name
 - Your Phone Number
 - Leak Location
 - Product Activity
 - Extent Of Damage

What Not to do if a Leak Occurs

- Do Not drive into leak or vapor cloud
- Do Not make contact with liquid or vapor
- Do Not operate pipeline valves (unless directed by pipeline operator)
 - Valve may be automatically shut by control center
 - Valve may have integrated shut-down device
 - Valve may need to be shut by hand
 - Valve may be operated by qualified pipeline personnel only, unless specified otherwise

Ignition Sources May Vary - A Partial List

- Static Electricity
- Metal To Metal Contact
- Pilot Lights
- Matches/Smoking
- Sparks From Telephone
- Electric Switches
- Electric Motors
- Overhead Wires
- Internal Combustion Engines
- Garage Door Openers
- Firearms
- Photo Equipment
- Remote Car Alarms/Door Locks
- High Torque Starters - Diesel Engines
- Communication Devices

HCA and IMP

Contact your local pipeline company for information on High-Consequence Areas and Integrity Management Programs.

