

Natural Gas Pipeline Safety

EDM Services, Inc.

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Important Signs of a Gas Leak



- The distinctive odor of natural gas
- A damaged connection to a gas appliance
- A hissing, whistling or roaring sound near a gas appliance or a pipeline.
- Dead or dying vegetation over or near pipeline areas
- A fire or explosion near a pipeline
- Dirt or water being thrown in the air
- Exposed pipeline after an earthquake, fire, flood or other disaster



Special markers show the location of most major pipelines

What to do if you spot a leak?

- Remain calm
- Don't light a match, candle or cigarette
- Don't turn electrical appliances or lights on or off
- Alert others and leave the area immediately
- Leave open any doors you pass through to help ventilate the area, but don't take time to open windows
- From a safe location, call The Gas Company, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or call 911
- Remain away from the area until the gas company declares the area safe



It's important to know exactly where your gas meter is located and how to shut it off in case of emergencies. All you need is a 12" adjustable wrench!

Call Before You Dig

- *It's a California State Law to call DigAlert*
- *Call 811 before you dig. It's free.*
- Pipelines may be located anywhere—under streets, sidewalks or even your own yard. That is why it is important to know where they are before digging for any reason
- Call **Underground Service Alert (USA) at 811** (<http://www.digalert.com>) at least two workdays before you start. This can help avoid costly damage or injury. USA will coordinate with Southern California Gas Company and other utilities to mark the location of buried utility-owned gas pipelines and other utility-owned lines—free of charge
- Once all lines are marked, carefully use only hand tools to dig within 24 inches of marked gas lines.
- **NO DAMAGE IS TOO SMALL TO REPORT.** Even a slight gouge, scrape or dent to a pipeline or coating may cause a dangerous break or leak in the future.
- If you cause what seems to be **ONLY** minor damage to a pipeline, **OR ANY COMPONENT ATTACHED TO THE PIPELINE**, you should **STILL** notify us immediately by calling **1-800-427-2200**



Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas. When incomplete combustion occurs in your home's gas appliances, carbon monoxide is produced, and this can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning of you and your family. In the case of home gas appliances, this can be caused by improper installation, poor maintenance, or other appliance misuse or failure.

The early stages of carbon monoxide poisoning produce unexplained flu-like symptoms, such as headaches, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, shortness of breath and mental confusion. Since carbon monoxide displaces the oxygen in the blood, prolonged exposure to carbon monoxide can lead to death by asphyxiation.

What to do if you suspect carbon monoxide is present in your home

- If safe to do so, immediately turn off the suspected gas appliance.
- Evacuate the premises and call **911**.
- Seek medical attention if anyone in the home experiences possible carbon monoxide poisoning symptoms.
- Contact The Gas Company at **1-800-427-2200** or a licensed, qualified professional immediately to have the appliance inspected.
- Don't use the suspected gas appliance until it has been inspected, serviced and determined to be safe by The Gas Company or a licensed, qualified professional.

How to maintain and use gas appliances to prevent carbon monoxide

- Vacuum around burner compartments, and inspect and replace furnace filters on forced-air units or central heating systems according to manufacturer instructions.
- Make sure to properly replace the front panels of a forced-air unit or the burner compartment door of a gas water heater.
- Never store anything near a gas appliance that might interfere with normal appliance airflow.
- Assure that appliance venting is intact and unblocked. Have all gas appliances and venting repairs done by a licensed, qualified professional.
- When using your gas fireplace, make sure the damper is open.
- Never use your gas oven for space heating.

