



# NATURAL GAS PUBLIC AWARENESS

AUGUST 2017



City of Susanville Department of Public Works

720 South Street, Susanville, CA 96130

Emergency 24HRS: (530)257-7236

[www.susanvilpublicworks.org](http://www.susanvilpublicworks.org)



## Pipeline Safety: A Shared Responsibility

Everyone plays a role in pipeline safety. Serious accidents on natural gas pipelines are rare, but the natural gas industry is committed to continuing to work together for safety. The City of Susanville Natural Gas Division operates the gas system with an emphasis on safety. As one of the many people who live or work near our natural gas system, you can help us keep the gas system operating safely. Call our 24-hr emergency line at **530-257-7236** for any natural gas, water or streets emergency.

## Working Around Natural Gas

The leading cause of pipeline leaks is damage from construction equipment. Before starting any excavation, call 811 two (2) working days prior to your planned excavation so the utility companies in the area can locate and mark their lines. Never try to locate a pipeline yourself. If you are working within 3 feet of a marked utility line you must hand dig. If you damage a pipeline, you not only create a hazardous condition, but you may be responsible for the cost of the repairs.



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

## Everyday Life: Powered by Natural Gas

You may not realize it, but natural gas plays a pretty significant role in Americans' everyday life.

- The oil and natural gas industry supports 9.8 million jobs in America.
- About 1/3 of all U.S. electricity is generated from natural gas.
- A natural gas water heater costs less to operate than electric and takes less time to reheat. It will also work during power outages.

## Signs of a Natural Gas Leak

If a natural gas leak occurs, use your senses to help identify the possible leak and its location.

Look – Blowing dirt, bubbling water, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by live, green plants may indicate a natural gas leak.

Listen – Near a gas appliance or line, there may be a hissing sound when natural gas is leaking.

Smell – Stay alert for the distinct, rotten egg smell of natural gas. You should act anytime you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air.

## If you Have a Natural Gas Leak

Leave – If you detect a natural gas leak, LEAVE the area immediately.

Do Not Touch – Do not touch anything electrical. Do not use a phone until you are a safe distance away. Do not smoke, do not turn any lights or appliances on or off, or operate a vehicle.

Call For Help – Once you are a safe distance away, call **911**.