

The City of Denver City Gas Department Cares About Your Health and Safety. The following information is to promote awareness that you may live or work near a Natural Gas Pipeline or Pipeline facility.

The City of Denver City (City) own's and operates a Natural Gas Distribution System within the City Limits of Denver City and within the South Portion of Yoakum County. The system consists of underground pipelines, gas mains and gas service lines. The system also consists of above ground regulator stations and meter sets that supply natural gas to residential and commercial properties.

It is also important to bring awareness to the customer yard lines that are buried underground on private property. These lines are connected to the outlet side of the gas meter and connect to the entry of the building or to any outdoor gas fired cooking appliance, hot tub, swimming pool or heating appliance. The customer yard lines and all interior gas lines that are servicing gas fired appliances within the building are the responsibility of the gas customer or property owner.

How to identify the location of buried pipelines, above ground regulator stations and meter sets:

The pipelines, main lines and service lines are located in the City's alley's, easements, rights-of-ways and streets. The City has installed pipeline markers to help identify the approximate – **NOT EXACT**- location of the pipeline. The regulator stations and meter sets are also located in the City's alley's, easements and rights-of-ways.

Natural gas has an excellent safety record, but like other forms of energy, it requires a certain amount of caution, Gas emergencies are rare, but they can happen. For example:

- Whenever gas leaks from a pipe or pipe fitting, there is a possibility of fire or explosion.
- If leaking gas accumulates in a confined space, it can displace air and cause suffocation.
- If a gas appliance is not working properly, incomplete combustion can produce carbon monoxide and other toxic gases.
- A pilot light or gas burner can ignite combustible materials and flammable vapors, such as gasoline, paint thinner or aerosols.

How to identify the smell of Gas:

Natural gas is a non-toxic, colorless fuel, about one third lighter than air. Gas burns, but only when mixed with air in the right proportion and ignited by a spark or flame. Natural gas is odorless in its natural state. The City of Denver City Gas Department adds an odorant called Mercaptan to the gas that causes a disagreeable odor that can be smelled if any gas is escaping. Gas leakage may occur from faulty appliances, loose fitting connections and service lines inside or outside your home, or from gas pipelines and gas mains. Leaks can be dangerous and should be dealt with promptly by experts.

If you ever smell Gas:

- Call the City of Denver City, (806) 592-5426, or the Denver City Police Department at (806) 592-3516. If you feel that it is an Emergency call 911.
- If the odor is very strong and you are indoors, go outside prior to calling 911. Do not go back into the building until it is deemed safe.
- Do not turn any electrical switches on or off.
- Do not light matches, smoke or create any other source of combustion.

How to recognize and respond to a pipeline leak:

- **Sight**- Natural gas is colorless and nearly invisible to the eye. Small leaks can be identified by looking for dying vegetation in a naturally green area. You may see a vapor gas cloud above the leak area. If you see bubbling water after a rain, it may be a gas leak.
- **Sound** – The volume of a pipeline leak can range from a quiet hissing to a loud roar, depending on the size and nature of the leak.
- **Smell** - natural gas is colorless, tasteless and odorless unless odorants, such as Mercaptan, are added.

Pipeline safety and damage prevention:

Prohibition applicable to excavators - a person who engages in demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction:

1. May not engage in a demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction activity in a state that has adopted a one-call notification system without first using that system to establish the location of underground facilities in the demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction area.
2. May not engage in such demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction activity in disregard of location information or markings established by a pipeline facility operator.

Anyone who causes damage to a pipeline facility that may endanger life or cause serious bodily harm or damage to property:

- A. May not fail to promptly report the damage to the owner or operator of the facility; and
 - B. If the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid, may not fail to promptly report to other appropriate authorities by calling the 911 emergency telephone number.
- *Pipeline Inspection, protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act 2006 (Section 2)*

Texas One- Call Requirements:

The Texas One-Call law requires anyone (with few exceptions, such as cemeteries) to call at least 2 working days (48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays) before you dig if you are planning on digging 16 inches or deeper. The One-Call center will notify member utilities that operate facilities in the area. A utility representative will determine if the project is near underground facilities, and dispatch someone to the work site to clearly mark the route and location of buried cables and/or pipelines. **CALL 811 - It's FREE!!**

Hazard Awareness:

The information here addresses hazards, consequences, and prevention measures in general. The City of Denver City Integrity Management Plan and more specific information can be obtained by contacting the City of Denver City Gas Department at (806) 592-5426, or by email at cityofdenvercity@valornet.com

- Product: Natural gas
- Leak Type: Gas
- Vapors: lighter than air
- Health Hazards: Extremely high concentrations may cause irritation or asphyxiation.
- Fire Hazards: Extremely flammable and easily ignited by heat, sparks or flames.

Purpose and reliability of the gas pipelines, and gas mains and services:

The City follows strict regulations and standards to ensure pipeline safety. Gas system personnel check for visual leaks during routine patrols and gas leak surveys are conducted on the entire system annually or as required by the Operators O&M Manual. Gas valves are inspected and tested annually.

How You can Help:

While accidents pertaining to natural gas pipeline facilities are rare, awareness to the location of the pipeline, the potential hazards, and what to do if a leak occurs can help minimize the number of accidents. The leading cause of pipeline accidents is third-party excavation damage. Pipeline companies are responsible for the safety and security of their pipeline systems. To help maintain the integrity of pipelines and their pipeline right-of-way, it is important that pipeline and facility neighbors protect against unauthorized excavations or other destructive activities that could cause damage to the pipeline facility. You can help by:

- Calling the City of Denver City at 806-592-5426 (or the police department at 806-592-3516 if it is after normal working hours or on weekends) if you suspect that a person is digging or excavating near an area that has a pipeline, and that the person has not notified the TX-811 System to have the excavation area marked.
- Making periodic checks of your buried gas lines on your property. Check for any piping leaks on your gas lines or corrosion on the metal gas piping.

If you would prefer to have the information in this brochure translated in a specific language, contact the City of Denver City at: cityofdenvercity@valornet.com.

If you are interested in finding out more about the City of Denver City's Public Awareness program, please contact the City of Denver City, P.O. Box 1539, Denver City, Texas 79323. Or visit City Hall at 102 W. 3rd Street, in Denver City, Texas.

Phone: 806-592-5426

Email: cityofdenvercity@valornet.com