

America's Energy Choice – Natural Gas

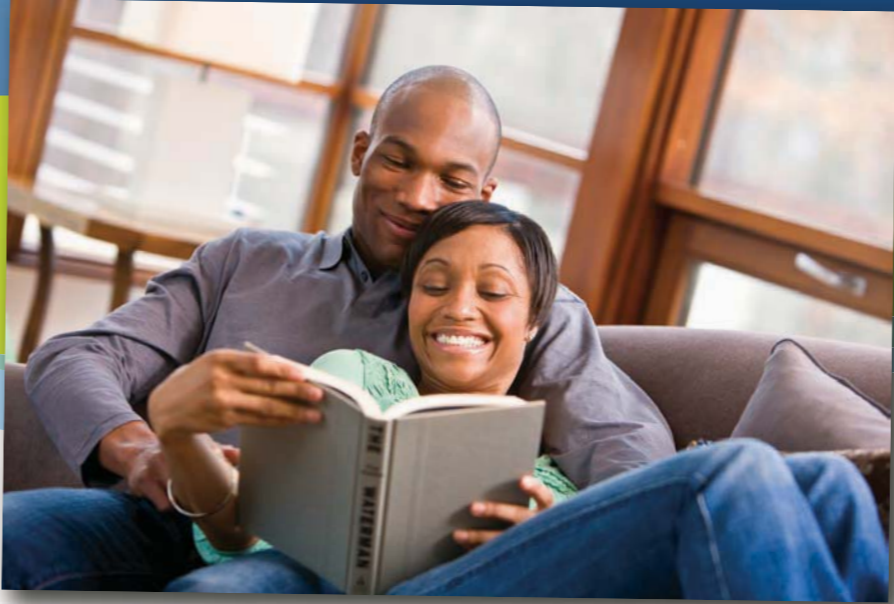
There are many reasons that make Natural Gas the best energy choice for America.



Clean:
Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel. It produces 45 percent less carbon dioxide emissions than coal and 30 percent less than oil. In Alabama, natural gas homes produce 50 percent less carbon emissions than all-electric homes.



Abundant:
U.S. natural gas supplies amount to more than a 100-year supply, and the amount of new natural gas discovered has exceeded the amount extracted for more than a decade.



Natural Gas

*Safe, Efficient, Reliable
and Underground*

Efficient:
More than 90 percent of the natural gas produced is delivered to homes and used directly by its natural gas appliances. In contrast, only 30 percent of the fuel (coal, natural gas or oil) used to generate electricity actually reaches a home's electric appliances. This means that 70 percent of the energy used to generate electricity is lost during the process of generating, transmitting and distributing the electricity to homes.



American:
Natural gas is a domestically produced fuel. In the United States, 85 percent of the natural gas that's used is produced in the United States, and more than 98 percent of the gas is produced in North America (U.S. and Canada). Using natural gas helps decrease our dependence on foreign sources of energy and helps create more U.S. jobs.



To learn more about the advantages of natural gas and how you can become an Alagasco customer, please visit

Alagasco.com

or call Alagasco Marketing Services at
1-800-292-4010.

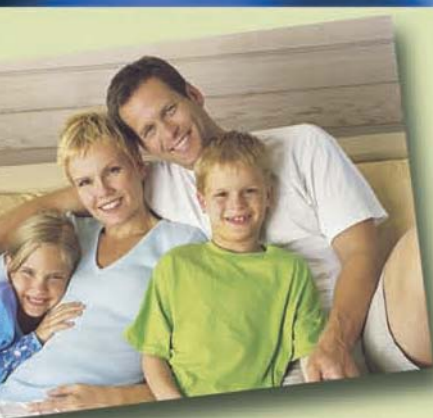


Emergency number 1-800-292-4008

Natural gas is a naturally abundant gas found deep beneath the earth's surface. It is odorless and colorless and produces very few emissions. It is also considered the cleanest fuel because of its clean qualities.

Natural gas is the most popular energy used for home heating. Its uses are expanding to fuel transportation, due to its ease of use and its positive environmental qualities.

The natural gas delivery system has the best safety record of all energy delivery systems. This brochure will provide you with important safety information about natural gas.



The Popular Choice...

According to statistics from the National Transportation Safety Board, natural gas pipelines and mains are the safest method of transportation. Natural gas provides about 24 percent of all the energy used in the United States. Gas utilities serve more than 60 million residential, commercial and industrial customers through underground pipelines.

The Safest Choice...

Using the latest technology, security and industry practices, natural gas pipelines and mains are monitored to maintain service and safety. Natural gas companies execute many programs to ensure your safety, including:

- Design and construction planning with local agencies
- Monitoring 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Integrity management programs for transmission pipelines
- Inspection and patrol by aerial and foot
- Training Emergency Responder and Excavator Training Programs
- Public awareness and Damage Prevention Programs
- Coordination and communication with police and fire officials

The Safety Commitment...

It is extremely unlikely a gas leak will occur, but you should always be prepared. Natural gas is flammable and if released and contacted by any source of ignition will ignite.

We are committed to protecting you, your property and the environment, and by implementing programs like these we are better equipped to detect the possibility of a leak happening prior to it actually occurring. These safety guidelines will provide you with important information to help you avoid dangerous activities that could lead to a gas leak, and what steps to take if a natural gas leak were to occur.



Use your SENSES

Recognizing a Suspected Leak...

Using your sense of sight, smell and sound will help you recognize a suspected leak. Here's what you should look for:

Sight

A dense fog, mist, or white cloud. Discolored vegetation, bubbling in water or blowing dust.

Sound

Hissing, whistling or roaring noise.

Smell

A distinctive gaseous odor is added to natural gas, which is colorless and odorless.

Ensure Your Safety...

The leading cause of damage to buried pipelines is the failure to call and obtain the pipelines' exact location. Damage to pipelines – such as a scratch, gouge, crease or dent – may cause a leak.

Before you start any excavation activity on your property, you are required by state law to call your State One-Call Notification Center or 811. Natural gas operators will mark the location of their lines at no cost to you.

Excavation activities can be as simple as planting a tree, installing landscaping, building a fence or installing a swimming pool.

811 is the federally-mandated number designated by the FCC to consolidate all local "Call Before You Dig" numbers and help save lives by minimizing damages to underground utilities. One easy phone call to 811 starts the process to get your underground pipelines and utility lines marked for FREE. When you call 811 from anywhere in the country, your call will be routed to your state One-Call Center. Once your underground lines have been marked for your project, you will know the approximate location of your pipelines and utility lines and can dig safely. More information regarding 811 can be found at www.call811.com.

Alabama One Call is a non-profit organization established under Alabama Act 94-487. Anyone engaging in excavation activities is required to notify underground facility owners prior to the start of excavation. Alabama One Call helps streamline this process by providing a "one call" service allowing excavators to notify area utility companies quickly and efficiently.

What you should **NOT** do if a leak occurs:

DO NOT touch, breathe or make contact with the leak.

DO NOT light a match, turn light switches on or off, use a cell or home phone, or do anything to create a spark.

DO NOT attempt to extinguish any fire.

DO NOT attempt to operate any valves.

What you should **DO** if a leak occurs:

DO leave the home, building and area of the suspected leak and get to a safe area.

DO call 911 to notify police and fire officials.

DO warn others to stay out of the area.

Pipeline Marker Information...

Pipeline markers are another important safety precaution. Since pipelines are buried underground, pipeline markers are used to help in their identification. Pipeline markers are found where a pipeline intersects a street, highway or railway. Be aware of any pipeline markers in your neighborhood. Write down the natural gas operator's name and phone number in case of an emergency. While markers are helpful, they provide very limited information.

Markers **DO** show:

The approximate location of the pipelines

The product transported

The natural gas operator's name and emergency phone number

Markers **DO NOT** show:

The depth of the pipelines

The number of pipelines

The exact location of the pipelines



Information for Emergency Officials...

Take whatever steps necessary to protect the public during a pipeline emergency. The following suggestions are offered only as a guide.

Secure the area around the leak.

- This could include evacuating people from homes, businesses, schools and other locations.
- This could include erecting barricades to prevent access to the emergency site.

Take steps to prevent ignition of a pipeline leak.

- This could include rerouting traffic, shutting off electricity and residential gas supply by qualified individuals.
- This could include preventing ignition sources from entering the emergency site.

Contact the natural gas operator.

- Contact the natural gas operator as quickly as possible.
- Pipeline markers provide the company name, phone number and product.
- Do not operate any valves; this action could escalate the emergency.
- The natural gas operator will dispatch personnel to help and aid the response to the emergency.
- The natural gas operator's personnel will take the necessary actions, such as starting and stopping pumps, opening or closing valves, and similar steps to minimize the impact of the situation.

Transmission Pipeline Mapping...

The National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) is a geographic information system (GIS) created by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) in cooperation with other federal and state governmental agencies and the pipeline industry to provide information about pipeline operators and their pipelines. The NPMS Web site is searchable by ZIP code or by county and state, and can display a county map that is printable.

Within the NPMS, PHMSA has developed the Pipeline Integrity Management Mapping Application (PIMMA) for use by pipeline operators and Federal, State, and Local Government officials only. The application contains sensitive pipeline infrastructure information that can be viewed via internet browser. PIMMA access cannot be given to any person who is not a direct employee of a government agency.

For a list of pipeline operators with pipelines in your area and their contact information or to apply for PIMMA access, go to www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/

For more information regarding pipeline safety and an overview of the pipeline industry please visit the following websites:

Pipeline Resources and Information

- Pipeline 101 - www.pipeline101.com
- Association of Oil Pipe Lines (AOPL) - www.aopl.org
- American Petroleum Institute (API) - www.api.org
- In the Pipe - Newsletter from the Oil Pipeline Industry - www.enewsbuilder.net/aopl/
- Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA) - www.ingaa.org
- American Gas Association (AGA) - www.aga.org
- Dig Safely - www.digsafely.com
- Common Ground Alliance (CGA) - www.commongroundalliance.com

Regulatory Agencies

- Department of Transportation (DOT) - www.dot.gov
- DOT Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) - www.dot.gov/affairs/rspaind.htm
- Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) - phmsa.dot.gov
- National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) - www.nts.gov
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) - www.ferc.gov
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC - Oil Pipelines) - www.ferc.gov/industries/oil.asp
- Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) - www.osha.gov
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) - www.nfpa.org

To view this information on the web and to take our online survey, go to www.pipelinesafetyinfo.com

Alabama One-Call

(800) 292-8525






www.al1call.com

Notice: 2 working days



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

This color code chart will help determine which utilities have marked their underground utility lines.

 WHITE - Proposed excavation	 ORANGE - Communications, alarm or signal lines, cables or conduit
 PINK - Temporary survey markings	 BLUE - Potable water lines
 RED - Electric power lines, cables, conduit and lighting cables	 PURPLE - Reclaimed water, irrigation and slurry lines
 YELLOW - Gas, oil, steam, petroleum or gaseous materials	 GREEN - Sewer lines

The information provided in this brochure, including but not limited to, One-Call center information, websites, state laws, regulatory agencies, has been gathered using the most up to date information available, and provided for informational purposes only. All matter is subject to change without notice. The Paradigm Alliance, Inc. made an attempt to verify all information contained herein as to its accuracy, and is not liable for any missing or incorrect information.