



**Call Before you Dig.  
It's the Law.**

Guardian Pipeline Company  
Attn: Pipeline Integrity Management  
3140 Neil Armstrong Blvd.  
Suite 208  
Eagan, MN 55121

Important Information for  
Landowners and the Community

With Natural Gas Pipelines

## LIVING SAFELY



*Today, a network of 2 million miles of natural gas pipelines exists in the United States.*

*These pipelines quietly, reliably and efficiently deliver natural gas throughout the country for domestic and industrial use. Natural gas pipelines are among the safest methods of transporting energy.*

**Guardian Pipeline** operates an underground natural gas pipeline and other facilities in your area. Because you live and work in the vicinity of our pipeline facilities, we are providing this safety brochure as part of our pipeline damage prevention program. Please review this information and share it with others.

### About Natural Gas and Transmission Lines



### Natural gas is the cleanest burning fossil fuel.

It moves silently, reliably and efficiently through an extensive network of interstate pipelines in the United States. Our system is part of that network. Pipelines lie underground, virtually unseen, and deliver large volumes of gas to their customers. While our pipeline company follows pipeline safety procedures, it is important for everyone living and working near gas pipelines to know basic safety information.

### Facts About Natural Gas

#### Natural gas is:

- A colorless, odorless, tasteless fossil fuel that is clean burning.
- Lighter than air. It rises and disperses rapidly into the atmosphere, unlike heavier petroleum products like oil.
- Non-toxic.
- Not easily ignited on its own. To burn, gas requires both a precise amount of oxygen and an ignition source.

*If there is an emergency like a fire or explosion near or involving the pipeline, immediately evacuate the area and contact us at 1-888-417-6275.*

### How to recognize a natural gas leak

Leaks from a natural gas pipeline are extremely rare. However, it is important to know how to recognize the signs of a leak if one were to occur in your area.

### Call 1-888-417-6275 immediately if you:

#### SEE

- Vegetation over or near the pipeline, which appears to be dead or dying for no apparent reason.
- Water bubbling at a creek, pond, river or any wet area over or near the pipeline.
- Dirt flying into the air over or near the pipeline.
- Fire or explosion near or involving the pipeline.
- Exposed pipeline, possibly caused by a natural disaster, such as a flood or earthquake.

#### HEAR

- A hissing, whistling or roaring sound along or near the pipeline.

#### SMELL

- A "rotten egg" odor.
- Natural gas is usually colorless and odorless. It may have a petroleum smell at times unless odorized. In that case, it will have a slight "rotten egg" smell.

**If you suspect a natural gas leak** inside your home or in your service line, immediately evacuate the area and contact your local gas company or call 911. We operate the pipeline that delivers natural gas to local gas distribution companies and large industrial customers. The distribution companies then deliver the gas to homes and businesses. Our facilities are clearly marked. These markers include an emergency number, and a warning message to call before you dig or grade in the area of our facilities.

### ***If you suspect a gas leak***

**DO** leave the area immediately and warn others to stay away.

**DO NOT** move any equipment or vehicles in the area. Do not turn on any equipment ignition or attempt to move the equipment. If the equipment is running, do not attempt to turn it off.

**DO NOT** use an open flame or bring anything into the area like phones or lighters that could cause the gas leak to ignite.

**DO NOT** go near the area. Keep away from the site.

*In the event of emergency, evacuate the area and immediately call 911.*

*Always call your state's One-Call Center before digging.*

### ***Safety is our top priority***

#### **A pipeline right-of-way is the area of land containing the pipeline.**

A right-of-way agreement between our company and a property owner is called an easement. Easements provide us with permanent, limited access to the land to enable us to operate, test, inspect, maintain and protect our pipeline. Our right-of-way varies in the distance from each side of the center of the pipeline.

#### **Pipeline right-of-way must be kept free from structures and other obstructions.**

If a pipeline crosses your property, please do not plant, place or build anything on or near the right-of-way without first having our personnel mark the pipeline, stake the easement, and explain the company's construction guidelines to you.

Whether or not you've notified the company in advance, **if you dig, hit, or contact the pipeline in any way, inform us immediately at 1-888-417-6275.**

**Caution**  
**Gas Pipeline**  
For EMERGENCIES call:  
1-888-417-6275  
Before excavating call:  
Your State's One-Call Center

### ***Damage Prevention***

Because natural gas pipelines are underground, line markers are used to indicate the approximate location of the pipelines. However, these markers do not indicate how deep the pipeline is buried. Also, the pipeline route can take twists and turns between markers. Never assume the pipeline lies in a straight line.

#### **Excavation work, digging or grading are the most frequent causes of pipeline damage and failures.**

Whether you are planning to build a major development, erect a fence or landscape your property, you should protect your safety and the safety of those around your work site by contacting your state's One-Call Center at least three days before you begin any work on or near the pipeline. There is no charge for this service.

It is a federal crime for any person to deliberately damage, destroy, or remove any pipeline sign or right-of-way marker. It's also against the law to damage or destroy pipeline facilities.

If you hit or damage our pipeline, no matter how minor the contact may seem, call **1-888-417-6275 immediately.**

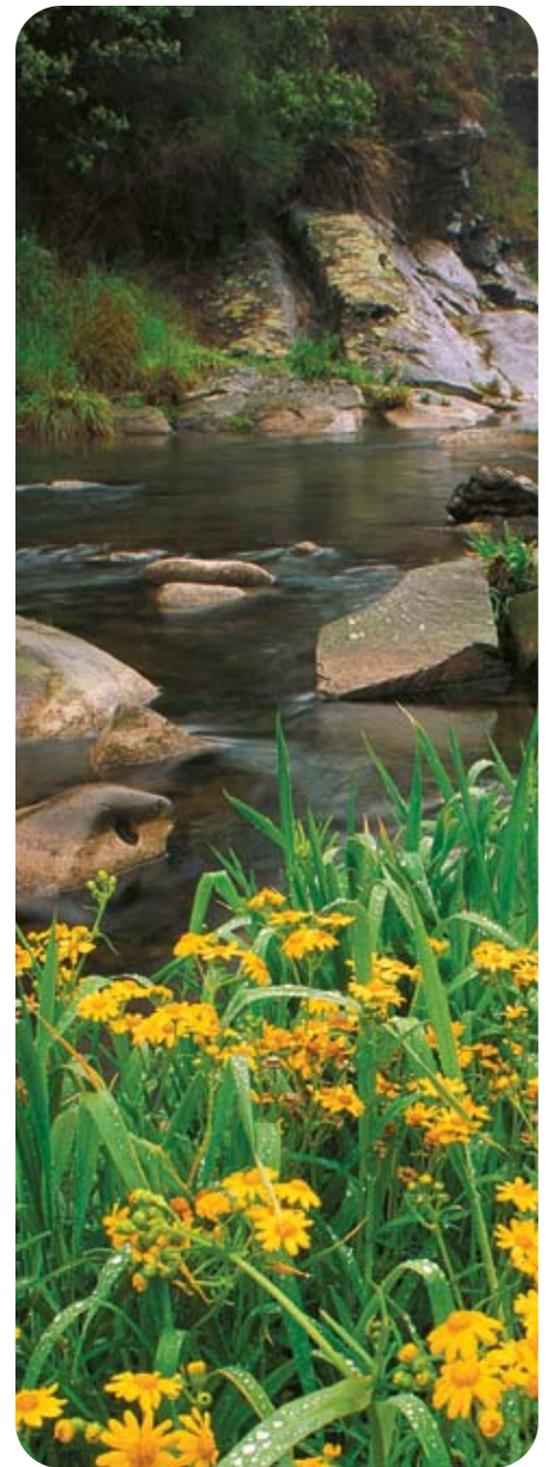


A gouge, scrape, scratch, dent or crease to a pipe or its coating may cause a safety problem. It is imperative that we inspect and repair any damage to the pipeline, no matter how minor it may seem. Failure to report any contact with the pipeline could result in fines.

#### **Pipelines must meet all applicable regulations.**

We often exceed these requirements. We have taken several key steps to ensure the safety of community members and our employees:

- The pipeline is built to high industry standards and is inspected thoroughly before being placed in service.
- Markers listing our pipeline's 24-hour telephone number are posted at fence rows, as well as roads, waterways, railroads and property line crossings.
- Aerial, foot and vehicle patrols survey the route regularly to identify areas such as sinkholes or washouts that need attention. These patrols also identify any construction activity near the pipeline.



#### **Pipelines are part of the critical infrastructure of the U.S. energy grid.**

Immediately following the attacks on September 11, 2001, pipelines across America instituted heightened security measures. While pipeline companies and employees across the nation are on a heightened state of alert, we continue to monitor and patrol the pipelines regularly via aircraft, vehicles, and/or on foot. Please call local law enforcement if you see anything out of the ordinary in your area.

