

## Look for Signs of Underground Pipelines

Natural gas pipelines are often identified by markers placed at intervals along pipeline rights of way. Markers warn that a pipeline is located in the area, identify the product transported in the line and provide the name of the pipeline operator and a telephone number to call in the event of an emergency.

While the markers are very helpful to indicate the presence of pipelines in the area, they don't show the exact location, depth or how many pipelines are in the right of way. Also, be aware that pipelines may not follow a straight line between markers. Please keep in mind that not all pipelines are marked. The absence of a pipeline marker does not mean that an underground pipeline may not be present.



If you smell natural gas or suspect a leak, call the Selmer Utility Division (731)645-7928 and emergency 911. Technicians are available 24hrs a day 7 days a week to investigate potential gas leaks.

### Reminder:

Do **NOT** operate gas valves under any circumstance.

These valves are only to be used by trained & qualified Selmer Utility Department Employees.



### Selmer Utility Division

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SelmerUtilityDivision

## Natural Gas Clean, Green, & Unseen

**Selmer Utility Division  
Natural Gas  
Public Awareness**

**Important  
Information**



# Natural Gas: Things you need to know

## Natural Gas is Safe

Natural gas is a safe, reliable and affordable energy choice, but it should be handled properly and with care. This is why it's important for you to be educated about the properties of natural gas and of the potential hazards if natural gas is released through damaged or leaking pipelines:

### Properties of Natural

- **Natural gas is Colorless.**
- **Natural gas is Odorless.**

For safety purposes, a compound called mercaptan is added to natural gas to give it the rotten egg smell to make it easily recognizable.

- **Natural gas is Nontoxic.**

Natural gas is not toxic, however it will displace oxygen. In a confined environment natural gas could significantly reduce the amount of oxygen in the air and create a dangerous environment.

- **Natural gas is Flammable.**

Natural gas will ignite with the proper mixture of air and an ignition source.



## How to Recognize a Natural Gas Leak

A natural gas leak can impact you, even if you don't have natural gas service at your home or business.

It's possible for natural gas to migrate into neighboring buildings, including those without natural gas service. Natural gas leaks can be handled quickly and easily if you know what to look for and what to do if you find one. Here's how you can identify a natural gas leak:



## If you suspect a Natural Gas Leak!

**Leave the area immediately!**

After leaving the area, call the **Selmer Utility Division @ (731)645-7928 or call 911.**

Call from a neighbor's house or from Another location far from the smell of natural gas.

\* **DO NOT** use anything electrical that may create a spark: this includes cell phones.

\* **DO NOT** operate any light switches.

\* **DO NOT** light a match.

\* **DO NOT** attempt to locate the source of a leak

\* **DO NOT** attempt to stop a leak

\* **DO NOT** return to the area until Selmer Utility Division.

Department or the emergency services have declared the area safe.

\* **DO NOT** attempt to operate pipeline valves yourself. You may inadvertently cause more danger or additional damage.

\* **DO NOT** attempt to extinguish a natural gas fire.

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LAW



Tennessee state law (65-31-101, Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act) requires anyone who engages in, or is responsible for, the planning or performance of any type of excavation e.g.; hand digging, grading, demolition, cultivating, auguring, blasting, or boring to provide advance notice of at least three full business days to Tennessee 811 by dialing 811, 800-351-1111, or by using one of our online ticket entry options.