

The safety of our customers, the general public and our employees always comes first. One way we support safety is to let you know about natural gas pipelines we own and operate near where you live or work. We want you to be aware of our pipelines and ask for your help in preventing accidental damage to them.

The Right-of-Way

Utility lines are placed in a Right-Of-Way (ROW). The ROW provides Utilities with access to work on their lines and respond effectively to emergencies.

Encroachments on the ROW inhibits the companies ability to reduce 3rd party damages, provide surveillance, perform routine maintenance activities, and inspections.

Landowners must keep the ROW clear of obstructions such as trees, shrubs, fences, or any other obstructions that might interfere with access to the pipeline.

Contact the Southern Ute Utilities Division with any questions about the ROW, or if you plan to dig or build a structure.

Important Numbers:

Public Service Emergency.....911

National One-Call.....811

Southern Ute Utilities Emergency Line.....
970-563-4401

Southern Ute Customer Service.....
970-563-5500

Town of Ignacio Emergency Line.....
970-759-3660

Learn More:

For a list of natural gas service providers and pipeline operations in your area visit:

www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov

visit the Southern Ute Util website:

www.suitutil.com

Southern Ute Utilities PIPELINE SAFETY



Call



It's The Law.

In case of a pipeline emergency call:

9-1-1

Pipeline Purpose and Reliability

There are more than 1.5 million miles of natural gas pipelines in the United States. The state of Colorado has approximately 71,000 miles of natural gas pipelines. According to the National Transportation Safety Board statistics, pipelines are one of the safest methods for transporting natural gas.

In this brochure you will learn:

- How to avoid damaging a pipeline;
- Characteristics of natural gas; and
- How to recognize and report a possible leak.

The Southern Ute Utilities Division regularly patrols our pipelines and follows a carefully planned maintenance and replacement schedule. Our employees are thoroughly trained to operate and maintain the integrity of our pipeline system.

Pipeline Location Signs

Pipeline signs are placed where pipeline intersect public roads, river crossing, and railways. They explain what the pipeline carries and provides the pipeline operators name and phone number. These signs do not depict the exact location of the pipeline. Call 8-1-1 first before digging.



Call Before You Dig!

It's **SAFE**, **It's FREE**, and it's the **LAW**!

Pipeline damage most often occurs during excavation. Everyone, including you, is responsible for keeping the natural gas system safe.

Consider where utility lines are buried before you dig. Whether you are a homeowner digging a hole to plant a tree, a fence post, or if you are a contractor using a backhoe for an excavation project. **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

Steps to take to Call Before You Dig

1. **Call the One-Call Center at 8-1-1**, at least two full business days before your plan to dig. This free service will notify all utilities in your area of your plans to dig.
2. **Within Two Business Days**, someone from each utility will arrive at your site to make the approximate location of buried lines with flags or paint.
3. **Dig with Care**, lines cannot be exactly pinpointed and the depth can not be precisely determined.
4. **Call to Have the Location Remarkd for FREE**, if the original markings are disturbed or if your project is delayed by more than seven days.

Digging related damage is the leading cause of pipeline incidents. Even a slight nick can cause steel lines to corrode or plastic lines to weaken. This may cause a pipeline emergency days, weeks, or years after damage.

Please report any damage IMMEDIATELY to Southern Ute Outlines Emergency Line:
970-563-4401



Characteristics of Natural Gas

Natural gas is a clean-burning efficient fuel that is colorless, tasteless, and lighter than air. It is also odorless in its natural state. To help detect leaks, an odorant is added to the gas prior to providing it to customers. The odorant smells like rotten eggs or sulfur.

Signs of a Natural Gas Leak

Southern Ute Utilities will investigate a suspected gas leak free of charge. Call 9-1-1

LOOK:

- Unexplained areas of dead vegetation where the surrounding area is green.
- Blowing dirt or bubbling water.

LISTEN:

- Hissing, roaring, or bubbling sound from the ground or standing water near a pipeline.

SMELL:

- An odorant has been added to the gas. It can be compared to the smell of rotten eggs.

How to Respond to a Potential Gas Leak

IMMEDIATELY evacuate everyone from the building or area. Leave door open when you exit. **CALL 911** once everyone is safe and away from area.

STAY AWAY from the building or area. Emergency responders will advise when it is safe to return. **DO NOT:**

- Strike a match.
- Attempt to fix or adjust gas lines or equipment.
- Cause a spark.

NEVER:

- Touch a phone.
- Use a cell phone near the suspected leak.
- Touch a light switch or electronic device.
- Open or close windows.

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