



# DANGER

## Natural Gas Pipeline

### Information about our natural gas pipeline in your area.

The Laurens Commission of Public Works is committed to safe operations of its pipelines in your community. We maintain a safe, reliable system through routine inspections, corrosion protection, maintenance and testing programs, public awareness and education.

#### A Team Effort

At the Laurens CPW our first priority is the same as yours - public safety. While we design, install, test, operate and maintain our pipelines to meet or exceed regulatory standards, we believe in comprehensive planning in the unlikely event of an incident.

This flyer is intended to give you some fundamental emergency response information regarding pipelines. We hope that you will keep it readily accessible for future reference.

#### Pipelines In Your Community

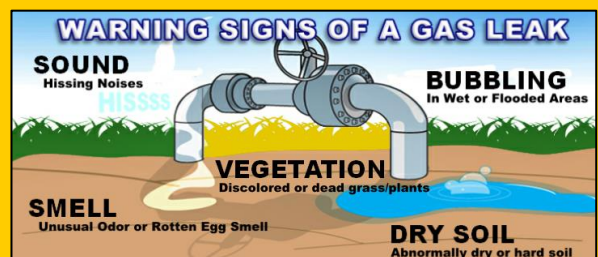
There are millions of miles of energy pipelines in North America and according to National Transportation Safety Board statistics, pipelines are the safest and most economical method of transporting products.

#### Identifying Our Pipelines

Our pipelines are located underground and can be easily identified by markers and signage. While the marker does not identify the exact location of the pipeline, it does indicate the general vicinity of the line along with emergency contact information. It is important to note that multiple lines may exist in a single right-of-way or above-ground facility and we recommend you contact each of the pipeline operators in the vicinity of any pipeline incident.

#### Leak Indications

- Brown or discolored vegetation amid healthy plants
- Dirt being blown at ground level
- Fire at or below ground level
- Bubbles coming from bodies of water
- A loud roaring or hissing sound
- A rotten egg odor (Mercaptan)



## **Damage Prevention**

The Laurens CPW regularly patrols its lines to monitor for construction activity or other encroachments that may present a potential threat. Careless digging is the biggest threat to our pipelines and to people. All states require the use of one-call center notification (811) prior to any excavating activity.

## **Natural Gas**

Natural gas is composed primarily of methane. It is lighter than air, colorless and odorless. An odorant called Mercaptan, which some say smells like rotten eggs, is added to the gas. The natural gas in our system can be transported at pressures up to 275 psi.

Vapor density: 0.60

Flammable range: 5-15 percent

Ignition temperature: 900-1,170 degrees

## **Emergency Response Recommendations**

- Isolate and secure the area and restrict access.
- Do not operate (open or close) pipeline valves or other associated equipment.
- Using combustible gas detectors, establish a perimeter of the impacted area.
- Notify the operator(s) of the pipeline using the emergency number on the markers or signs.
- Position apparatus and equipment at a safe distance and upwind from the incident site.
- Do not extinguish burning natural gas fires-protect exposures and coordinate isolation operations with pipeline personnel.

## **Pressure-Relieving Devices**

On occasion, a pressure-relieving device may activate at an above-ground facility. These devices are designed to relieve pressure on the system. In the event of over-pressurization notify us at 864-681-4300 and we will dispatch company personnel to respond. Natural gas is lighter than air and will readily dissipate into the atmosphere. Under no circumstances should a pressure-relieving device be capped or valved off.

## **Incident Command System**

The Laurens CPW's response to a pipeline emergency is directed toward the safety of all persons and includes isolation, minimizing and controlling the pipeline release. We maintain comprehensive emergency response plans at our facilities. Our personnel are trained to respond and communicate with emergency response agencies within the incident command structure.

## **Media Relations**

Pipeline incidents are rare, but when they do occur, they can attract media attention. Laurens CPW's public affairs personnel can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week by dialing 864-681-4300.

## **Additional Information**

For information about transmission pipelines in your area, visit the National Pipeline Mapping System's web site at [www.npm.phmsa.dot.gov](http://www.npm.phmsa.dot.gov). For more information on pipeline safety, contact us at 864-681-4300 or visit our web site at [www.lcpw.com](http://www.lcpw.com).