Important safety information from Atlanta Gas Light

Every day, underground pipelines safely transport natural gas – one of the most efficient, reliable and environmentally friendly fuels – to homes and businesses throughout the country. Atlanta Gas Light operates, secures and maintains the pipelines in our service territories. We adhere to state and federal pipeline safety regulations, perform extensive quality-control checks, educate the public on how to recognize and prevent natural gas leaks, and work closely with officials to develop emergency response plans.

Call before you dig

Before digging on your property, state law requires you call **811** to have your utility lines professionally marked – for free! You must wait the required amount of time before you begin your project. Pipeline markers indicate the general area of the pipeline, but not its exact location or depth. A pipeline may not always be marked in all areas, so it is important to always "Call Before You Dig." If a pipeline right of way is adjacent to your property, you have a responsibility to ensure no new installations of landscaping or physical structures are placed in the right of way, which interferes with our ability to keep the pipeline safe through routine monitoring and maintenance.

Information about transmission pipelines operating in your community can be accessed online at **npms.phmsa.dot.gov**, courtesy of the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS).

Water heater safety

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urges all users to lower their water heaters to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Carbon monoxide

Incomplete combustion of any fuel produces carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is poisonous and has no odor, taste or color. Carbon monoxide detectors are helpful, but they are no substitute for using equipment safely. This includes having your appliances inspected once a year by a certified contractor.

Appliance safety

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- It is important that you have your furnace inspected by a qualified specialist.
- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shut-offs are in proper working condition.
- Keep trash and other combustible materials away from your air, heating and water heating systems.

Pipeline integrity management is a process for assessing and mitigating pipeline risks to reduce both the likelihood and consequences of incidents. We have a comprehensive plan that fully addresses these processes, especially for locations deemed high-consequence areas.

To learn more, visit **atlantagaslight.com/integritymanagementplan.**

If you smell gas, act fast!

Although natural gas pipeline incidents are uncommon, you can help prevent emergencies by knowing the signs of a potential problem. Even though you may not currently be a Atlanta Gas Light Light customer, you can play an important role in natural gas safety. Below are some tips on how to identify a possible natural gas leak, and what to do in such a situation.

LOOK for blowing dirt, discolored vegetation or continued bubbling of standing water.

LISTEN for a hissing or roaring noise near a natural gas appliance or line.

SMELL for the distinctive, rotten-egg odor associated with natural gas. Natural gas is colorless and odorless, so we add a chemical odorant called mercaptan for easy detection of a suspected natural gas leak. This odorant has a distinctive "rotten egg" type odor. You should act any time you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air.

Note: Be aware that "odorant fade," while uncommon, can occur. Odorant fade occurs when a physical or chemical process causes the level of odorant in the gas to be reduced. This can happen in both existing gas pipe and new installations. Some individuals may not be able to detect the smell of the natural gas odorant because they have a diminished sense of smell, because the scent is being masked by other odors in the area or because the odorant has diminished so that it is not detectable. Some gas lines, due to their unique function, may not have odor at all.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air:

DO NOT try to identify the source or to stop the leak yourself.

LEAVE the area immediately and move a safe distance away from the potential leak, while avoiding any action that may cause sparks.

AVOID using any sources of ignition, such as cellphones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines, as natural gas can ignite from a spark or open flame, possibly causing a fire or explosion. Natural gas is nontoxic, lighter than air and displaces oxygen. In severe cases, if not used properly, it can also lead to asphyxiation.

CALL Atlanta Gas Light at **800.643.4170** or **911** once you are out of the area of the suspected leak and in a safe place. Stay away until Atlanta Gas Light or emergency personnel indicate it is safe to return.

For more information, visit **atlantagaslight.com/safety** or call **866.643.4168.**

Para solicitar una copia de esta información en español, llame al **866.643.4168** o visite **atlantagaslight.com/safetyspanish.**

Online Survey

Please take a moment to complete a survey about natural gas safety and you by scanning the QR code or visiting **surveymonkey.com/r/P67VMXZ** to help us make sure we are keeping our communities safe.

Atlanta Gas Light

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