



# Working together to keep the pipeline safe



May 2025

Our most important responsibility is the safety of our customers and communities. **That's why we are working closely with customers to keep the areas above our gas transmission pipelines safe and clear of structures, trees and brush.** These items can block emergency access or damage the pipe.

**Safe uses**

**Larger trees and structures need to be at least 14 feet from the pipe for safety.**  
(See reverse page for more information about safe plantings)

**Unsafe uses**

If we find items that could pose a safety concern, **we work with the property owner to remove or relocate those items** to a safe distance from the pipeline.

## Utility best practices that guide this work

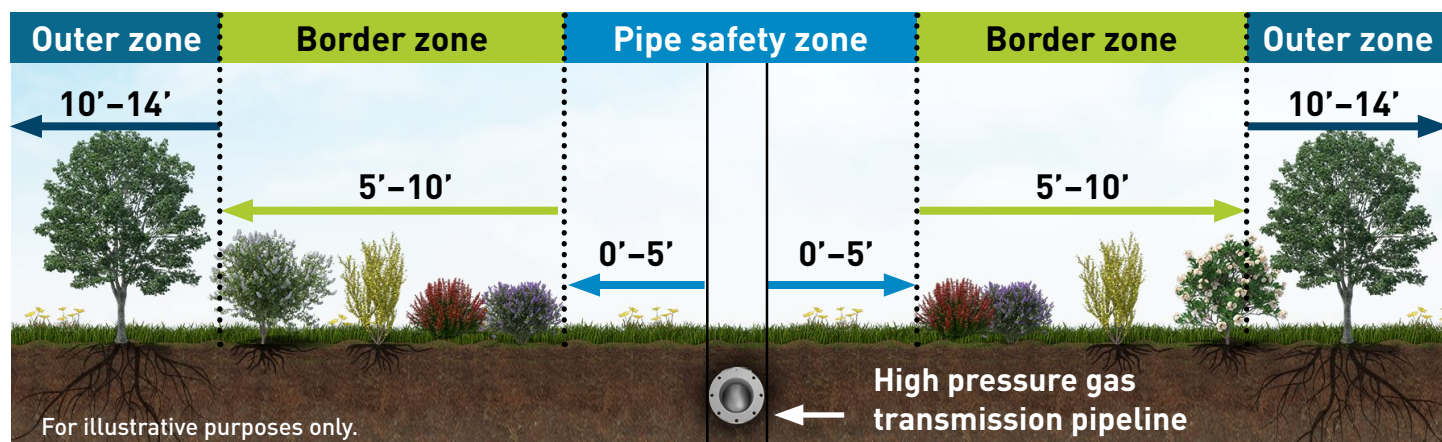
We follow recommendations from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance, as well as the Public Awareness for Pipeline Operators' American Petroleum Institute.

### Recommendations include:

- Ensuring vegetation won't prevent pipeline access, inspections and maintenance.
- Avoiding planting trees and other vegetation with roots that may reach and physically impact the pipe or its protective coating.

## Safe planting near pipelines

Together, we can keep our community safe by planting the right tree in the right place. Download our Guide to Safe Planting at [pge.com/safelandscaping](https://pge.com/safelandscaping) for more information.



Multiple factors are reviewed when considering removal of vegetation near gas pipelines including trunk size and soil condition, among others.

<b>Pipe safety zone</b>	Plant lawns, flowers, low-profile grasses and low-growing herbaceous plants.
<b>Border zone</b>	Plant small to medium shrubs with a trunk less than 8" in diameter at full maturity.
<b>Outer zone</b>	Plant large shrubs and small trees with a trunk less than 36" in diameter at full maturity.

## Why newly planted trees pose a safety concern

While newly planted trees might not seem like a safety concern, depending on the species and the potential size of the tree when mature, it may need to be removed. This is because it can block access when fully grown or damage the pipeline as it grows. If we find a new planting that is a safety concern, we will work with the property owner to relocate or remove the tree for safety.

## How the community can help

Together, we can reduce safety risks and help prevent accidents. You can help by:

- **Calling 811 two working days before** starting a digging or landscaping project to have the underground utilities marked.
- **Submitting plans** for any new building or major landscaping project to [PGEPlanReview@pge.com](mailto:PGEPlanReview@pge.com).
- **Following our Guide to Safe Planting** to plant the right trees in the right location.
- **Ensuring structures are** at least 14 feet from the pipeline.

If you have any questions about this gas safety work, please call **1-800-743-5000** or visit [pge.com/gasveg](https://pge.com/gasveg).

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