

# Prevent digging into natural gas and electric lines



**Call 811 at least two business days before starting any digging project.**

**Digging is digging.** Whether you are planting a tree, installing a fence or working in your garden you are working around underground electric lines and gas pipelines.

Learn how to keep your family, your neighbors and the community safe when digging near electric and natural gas lines.

More safety tips at [pge.com/digsafely](https://www.pge.com/digsafely).



Together, Building  
a Better California





## Plan a safe digging project



**Call 811**—Contractors are required and homeowners encouraged to call two business days before work begins. Please provide the address, location, type of work and start date. Underground Service Alert (USA) will provide a ticket reference number valid for 28 calendar days.



**Mark work area and get marked**—Identify your work area by using white paint, flags or even flour. PG&E will mark its underground facilities with colored paint or utility flags. Leave these in place while working.



**Dig with your hands**—Use hand tools, like a shovel, to expose the underground utility line. You should start digging at least 24 inches from the USA markings to avoid contact with the underground facility.



**Replace the soil**—Carefully cover and pack the soil to ensure the underground facility is covered and no longer exposed.

## Call 811—Know what's below

**811** is a **FREE**, one-call service that notifies local utility companies to locate and mark their underground facilities so you can dig safely.

California law requires that all contractors and construction professionals call **811** at least two business days prior to starting any digging projects. Calling **811** can prevent potential hazards like digging into underground electric lines and natural gas pipelines.

## Spot a natural gas leak

Use your senses to detect a possible gas leak. You play a critical role and should report any signs of a gas leak.



**Smell:** Smelling a “rotten egg” odor may be an indication of a gas leak due to the odorant we add for your safety.



**Sounds:** Listen for hissing, whistling or roaring sounds coming from underground or gas appliances.



**Sight:** Look for dirt spraying into the air, bubbling in a pond or creek and dead/dying vegetation in an otherwise moist area.

## Respond to a gas leak

If you damage an underground facility or suspect a gas leak:

1. Leave the area immediately to an upwind location and alert others of possible danger.
2. Call **911** to notify emergency personnel and call PG&E at **1-800-743-5000**.

## Understand utility markings

Look for these markings to know what utilities are underground.

PROPOSED EXCAVATION

TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKING

ELECTRIC, POWER LINES

GAS, OIL, STEAM, CHEMICAL

CABLE, COMMUNICATION

SEWER, STORM DRAIN

RECLAIMED WATER

POTABLE WATER

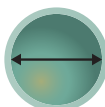
# Learn more about our natural gas pipelines

Underground pipelines are the safest way to transport natural gas. Our larger **transmission pipelines** carry gas from one part of the state to another.

## TRANSMISSION



Carries gas across the state



Steel pipeline size:  
10 to 42 inches

**Higher pressure:** Greater than 60 pounds per square inch

Our **distribution lines** are smaller and deliver natural gas to homes and businesses for heating and cooking.

## DISTRIBUTION



Delivers gas to your home



Plastic or steel pipeline size:  
0.25 to 8 inches

**Lower pressure:** Less than 60 pounds per square inch

## Safety is our highest priority

To ensure safety, PG&E monitors our gas pipeline system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We conduct regular ground inspections, aerial patrols and surveys to check for possible leaks and other damage. Visit us at [pge.com/gassafety](http://pge.com/gassafety) for more information about our gas pipelines.

For assistance in English, please call **1-888-743-7431**

Para ayuda en español, por favor llame al  
**1-800-660-6789**

要用粵語/國語請求協助，請致電 **1-800-893-9555**

Kung kailangang makipag-usap sa nakakasalita ng  
Tagalog, tumawag sa **1-888-743-7431**

Để được giúp đỡ bằng tiếng Việt, xin gọi **1-800-298-8438**