

# Pipeline Safety for your School



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

Pipelines are safe, reliable and efficient source of energy that is easy to use, bringing comfort to thousands of people throughout the world. Chances are there are pipelines by your school or home in the community where you live. In addition to being safe and efficient, pipelines are used by millions of people in our daily lives and is important to our country's and the world's growing energy needs. Pipelines carry oil, natural gas and other products that help heat our homes, provide fuel for our cars and school buses, and helps make many products we use each day. If you look below you will see some pipeline markers that help identify the approximate location of underground pipelines.



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## Pipeline Markers

Pipeline markers help identify the approximate location of underground pipelines. They carry important information like what product is in the pipeline, who operates the pipeline, and the number to call in case of an emergency. These markers can be found where a pipeline intersects a street, highway or railroad and can be found on parts of property in what is called a Right-of-Way.



## What To Do If A Leak Occurs

- Leave the area immediately in an upwind direction and warn others to stay away.
- Do not light a match, start an engine, use a telephone or cell phone or turn on/off any electrical appliances, and avoid potential ignition sources which may cause an explosion or fire.
- Once you are a safe distance away from the potential leak, call 911.
- Do not drive into an area where you suspect a leak or vapor cloud, and do not touch or operate pipeline valves.
- Avoid making contact with escaping liquids or vapors as potential hazards may include eye, skin and respiratory irritation and the product may be highly flammable.



## How To Recognize A Pipeline Leak



**SIGHT** - Look for fire or explosion near a pipeline, a spot of dead or discolored vegetation amid healthy plants, bubbles coming from bodies or pools of water, or dirt being blown in the air. These may be signs of a possible leak around the pipeline area.

**SOUND** - Listen for any unusual noise like a hissing or roaring sound.



**SMELL** - A penetrating and bad or smelly odor similar to rotten eggs may accompany a pipeline leak. Do NOT remain in the area.

To help prevent damage to the pipelines that are underground that you cannot see, always call 811 at least two days before doing any digging in the ground, planting flowers, trees or making a garden, or if any member of your Family or household plans on conducting any type of digging in the ground around your home. This is a safe practice to follow and in many states is a **LAW!** So, always remember that 811 is for calling before anyone digs!



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