



DTE Energy®

SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SAFETY



BE SAFE & REPORT: If you smell gas or a gas emergency occurs, from a safe distance, call **911** and the DTE Energy Gas Leak Line at **800.947.5000**

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT DTE ENERGY'S NATURAL GAS PIPELINES

For more than a century, DTE Energy has safely and reliably delivered natural gas to families and businesses throughout Michigan. Today, the safety of our customers and employees remains our highest priority.

You are receiving this brochure because you live or work near one of DTE Energy's pipelines. As part of its safety commitment, DTE Energy is dedicated to preventing damage and building awareness about how to respond to pipeline emergencies. This information is just one part of that effort.

In 2018, we plan to inspect nearly 10,000 miles of pipeline and upgrade more than 500 miles of our system to ensure we maintain safe and reliable delivery of natural gas to our customers. All mains and service lines are surveyed at least every three years and cast iron mains are surveyed once every year.

The bottom line is that we're putting the health and safety of people first, but we need your help. Please read and share the attached information, so that you and your family, friends and neighbors can recognize, respond to and avoid natural gas pipeline emergencies.

Thank you in advance for your support in the continued safe operation of our pipelines.

Sincerely,



Mark Stiers

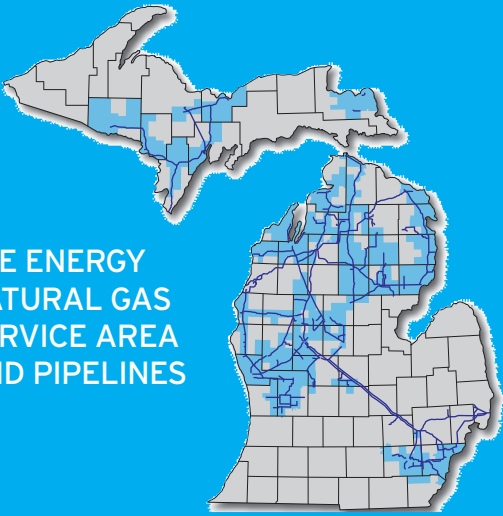
President and Chief Operating Officer, DTE Gas

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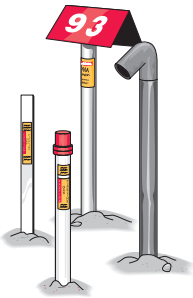
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DTE ENERGY NATURAL GAS SERVICE AREA AND PIPELINES



HOW TO IDENTIFY A PIPELINE



DTE Energy has a network of underground natural gas pipelines throughout Michigan. Buried pipelines are out of sight so it's easy to forget about them. Sometimes, pipelines are marked by above-ground markers, but often they are not. DTE Energy uses these markers to indicate approximate, but not exact, locations of pipelines.

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW - CALL MISS DIG 811

Please remember Before you break ground, Michigan law (*PA 174*) requires that you call **811** at least three working days in advance to have the location of underground pipelines marked. Natural gas pipelines will be marked with yellow paint, flags or stakes. You can also contact **MISS DIG 811** at **800.482.7171**. MISS DIG, it's fast, it's free and it's the law.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

WHAT HAPPENS IF A PIPELINE IS DAMAGED?

Damage to pipelines occurs most often when people dig near a pipeline location. Pipelines can be accidentally hit, dented, scraped or gouged. Sometimes, there may not be any apparent damage to the pipeline.

When a pipeline is damaged, the supply of natural gas to homes and businesses could be interrupted. A damaged pipeline can leak natural gas - possibly causing fires, explosions or asphyxiation. These hazards could also be caused by:

- Extreme natural events such as floods and tornadoes.
- Fire or explosion near a pipeline.
- Collapsed buildings that break or damage gas pipelines.
- Water main breaks that weaken roadways and pavement, damaging gas pipelines.
- Under or overpressure in the gas system.
- Equipment failure.
- Uncontrolled escaping gas.



From our new control room, DTE Energy employees continuously monitor more than 4,000 points along our pipeline system to maintain safe and reliable delivery of your energy. We quickly respond to any natural gas emergency. ***If your digging equipment or tools contact a pipeline, stop your excavation and contact the utility company immediately.***

POSSIBLE SIGNS OF A NATURAL GAS LEAK

- A blowing or hissing sound.
- Dust blowing from a hole in the ground.
- Continuous bubbling in wet or flooded areas.
- An odor similar to the smell of rotten eggs.
- Dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area
- Abnormally dry or hardened soil.
- Flames, if a leak has ignited

If you smell gas or suspect a leak, do not use any electronic devices or open flames, and immediately leave the area. From a safe distance, call 911 and the DTE Energy Gas Leak Line at 800.947.5000.

IF A PIPELINE LEAK OR EMERGENCY OCCURS

- Evacuate occupants from the building and/or area. Do not use any telephones (including cell phones), doorbells, light switches, pagers or any other electrical equipment.
- Avoid all open flames. Do not smoke.

- Do not start up or shut down any machinery, vehicles or equipment in or near the area.
- Keep people at a safe distance from the area
- Remember, upwind of a leak is the safest place to be.
- Do not attempt to stop the leak. If the gas is burning - let it burn. Do not attempt to extinguish the flame. Burning gas will not explode.
- From a safe distance, call the DTE Energy Gas Leak Line at **800.947.5000**.

PLANNING TO EXCAVATE? CALL 811 FIRST

If you are planning to excavate, DTE Energy wants to remind you to dig safely, following four simple steps:

1. **Call 811.** It's fast, it's free and it's the law.
2. **Wait until the flags are placed.** Allow at least three business days for utilities to mark the lines in your designated work area.
3. **Expose utility lines by hand-digging.** Before using any power equipment, carefully hand-dig where the utility lines are marked to expose them. If you are unable to locate the utility lines, please contact MISS DIG 811 and wait for assistance from the utility company.
4. **Respect the flags.** Stay aware of all underground utility line locations, even if you're not working near them. And never drive heavy vehicles or store materials over marked utility lines. Remind children not to remove the flags. If a child pulls out the utility flags, do not attempt to place the flags back in the ground. Call **811** to indicate the utility lines need to be marked again.

Notify DTE Energy if digging equipment or tools contact our underground pipelines. Minor damage, such as nicks, scratches, cuts, scrapes, dents or gouges, can result in pipeline failure or a major incident in the future if not properly assessed beforehand. Contact DTE Energy before back-filling your excavation.



IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is the cleanest burning of all fossil fuels.

It has a very limited range of flammability. It requires the right mixture of air and natural gas before it will burn - roughly between four percent and 15 percent natural gas. Natural gas has a very high ignition temperature, about 1100 F.

Natural gas is naturally odorless.

Natural gas has no odor or color. DTE Energy adds a harmless chemical to give natural gas its distinctive scent. It smells kind of like rotten eggs - that helps all of us easily detect gas leaks. Please note: Not all pipelines carry odorized natural gas. Dead vegetation, blowing dirt, hissing or roaring noises are signs that a natural gas leak could be present.

Natural gas is non-toxic and lighter than air.

In large concentrations, it will displace the air in enclosed spaces and cause suffocation because of the lack of oxygen. However, it will rise and disperse if released into the open air.

PIPELINE INTEGRITY

DTE Energy has established a Pipeline Integrity management program in conjunction with federal and state regulations. Inspection and maintenance work is performed regularly, such as leak surveys and corrosion control. Pipeline segments are replaced if necessary. This program enhances preventive and mitigative measures DTE Energy already has in place to maintain the safe and reliable operation of our transmission pipeline system. Selected segments of the pipeline are known as high consequence area (HCA).

HCAs along the pipeline are typically densely populated areas or rural areas containing identified sites adjacent to the pipeline. Identified sites may be churches, schools, hospitals, day-care centers, assisted-living facilities, campgrounds or other buildings and outside areas where people congregate.

You can help by alerting us to any of these identified sites or reporting any unusual activity that is near our transmission facilities. Go to dteenergy.com, click on "*Municipalities*" at the bottom of the page, then "*ensure pipeline safety.*" Fill out the form and click Submit.

For general natural gas safety information, visit dteenergy.com/gassafety.

To view a list of pipeline operators in your area, visit <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov>

If you would like additional information about excavation safety and damage prevention, call the MISS DIG 811 administrative office at **248.370.6400**, or contact and participate in your local Damage Prevention Association (DPA).

- Capital Area DPA
- Ottawa-Kent DPA
- Shiawassee-Genesee-Lapeer DPA
- Tri-County DPA
- Wayne-Oakland-Macomb Construction Safety Committee
- Mid-Michigan DPA
- Muskegon-Newaygo-Oceana DPA
- Kalamazoo Area DPA or Southwest Michigan Utilities Protection Association
- Livingston/Oakland/Washtenaw Damage Prevention Association

Information about all of the state's damage prevention associations can be found at www.missdig811.org.

Thank you for taking the time to read this brochure. Your cooperation helps to ensure the safety of our natural gas pipeline system and your neighborhood.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT AND FILL OUT THIS POSTAGE-PAID SURVEY AND DROP IT IN THE MAIL.

Thank you!

1. Was the information provided in this brochure useful in educating you on natural gas facts, pipeline safety and damage prevention?
 Yes No
2. I am aware that natural gas pipeline safety is everyone's responsibility.
 Yes No
3. I know to call MISS DIG prior to digging.
 Yes No
4. I am able to recognize the signs of a natural gas pipeline leak
 Yes No
5. I know the actions to take if a natural gas pipeline emergency occurs.
 Yes No

Your information: optional only

E-mail Address

Name/Company Name

Address

County/City

Phone Number

***Thank you for participating in this survey.
Your comments are important to us!***