

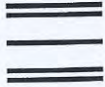
Emergency Phone Numbers

Fairhope Public Utilities
(251) 928-8003

State Regulating Agency,
Alabama Public Service Commission
(334) 242-5778

Alabama One Call
1-800-292-8525

*Please call at least 48 hours before you begin
any excavation or need a line located.*



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

CITY OF FAIRHOPE
GAS DEPARTMENT
PO DRAWER 429
FAIRHOPE AL 36533-0429

Fairhope Public Utilities
City of Fairhope
P.O. Drawer 429
Fairhope, AL 36533

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Resident
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Fairhope AL 36532-3206

1462 T24 P1

Fairhope Public Utilities



Pipeline Safety in Our Community

The City of Fairhope Gas Department and the Fairhope Public Utilities understands the importance of pipeline safety and wants to keep our community safe. Below is some information on safety that we encourage you to share with membership of your household and your neighbors.

There are more than 200,000 miles of liquid petroleum pipeline and 300,000 miles of natural gas pipelines in the United States. According to National Transportation Safety Board statistics, pipelines are the safest method for transporting these products. Pipelines have a safety record unparalleled by any other mode of transporting energy products. A greater risk to the environment and the general public exists when these products are transported by other methods.

Natural gas provides about 24 percent of all the energy used in the United States and gas utilities serve more than 60 million customers. Since Americans consume more than 700 million gallons of petroleum products per day, pipelines are an essential component of our nation's infrastructure. Most pipelines are made of steel, often covered with protective coating, and buried underground. They are tested and maintained using cleaning devices to control corrosion. Interstate pipelines have an integrity management plan and you may contact them directly for more information.

Call Before You Dig!

Before you dig or excavate, contact the One-Call Center by simply dialing 811 from anywhere in the United States. You may also contact companies that may not be



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

a member of the One-Call Center such as local water districts. Please call before you start your project, whether landscaping, building fences, or a major construction project. Many agricultural operations can benefit from calling the One-Call Center, such as chisel plowing, deep ripping, drain tile insulation, setting posts and other deep excavations or installations. Pipeline companies and other utilities will mark the location of their lines at no cost to you. Pipeline and utility markers may not show the exact location of the buried lines. Failure to call 811 before excavation is the leading cause of damages to buried pipelines. When excavating near pipelines many pipeline companies will require that they have a pipeline company representative monitor the excavation. Proper backfilling is essential to prevent damage to the pipeline.

Potential Hazards of Pipeline Products

Besides liquid petroleum and natural gas, pipelines transport a variety of products for our everyday lives such as oxygen for hospitals. They may contain other types of gases, chemicals, hazardous liquids, refined products or crude oil,

as well as nonflammable products. If a leak would occur on the pipeline, some of these materials could cause environmental damage. Other products may be highly flammable, or harmful if inhaled, cause eye or skin irritation, and possibly difficulty breathing. Because of these potential hazards it is important to be able to recognize a pipeline leak.

Pipeline Operator's Actions During an Emergency

Although accidents are rare, if one does occur, the pipeline operator will immediately dispatch personnel to the site to help handle the emergency and to provide information to public safety officials to aid their response to the emergency. Pipeline technicians will also take the necessary operating actions such as starting and stopping pumps or compressors, closing and opening valves, and similar steps to minimize the impact of the situation.

How to Recognize a Suspected Leak...

Using your sense of sight, smell, and sound will help you in recognizing a suspected leak.

Sight

A dense fog, mist, or white cloud. Bubbling in water and creeks or blowing dust and discolored vegetation.

Smell

Natural Gas is naturally odorless so a distinctive gaseous odor is added.

Sound

Whistling, hissing or roaring noise.

What to do When a Suspected Leak Occurs

1. Immediately leave the area.
2. If possible turn off any equipment being used in or near the suspected leak. Abandon any equipment being used and move upwind from the suspected leak.
3. From a safe location, call 911 or your local emergency response number and the pipeline company. Call collect, if needed, and give your name, phone number, description of the leak, and its location.
4. Warn others to stay away when possible.
5. Control traffic in the area.
6. Seek medical assistance as needed.
7. Evacuate the area.
8. Environmental protection as necessary.
9. If a leak has ignited a fire, extinguish only secondary fires.

What NOT to do if you Suspect a Leak

1. **DO NOT** touch, breathe, or make contact with the leaking liquids or gas. Stay upwind if possible.
2. **DO NOT** light a match, start an engine, use a telephone, turn on or off any type of electrical switch such as a light, garage door opener etc., or do anything that may create static or a spark.
3. **DO NOT** attempt to extinguish any pipeline fire that may start.
4. **DO NOT** drive into a leak or vapor cloud area. Automobile engines may ignite the vapors.
5. **DO NOT** attempt to operate valves.

Based on the information in this brochure, please answer the following:

1. Are you aware of the existence of natural gas pipelines in your area?
 Yes No
2. Do you feel knowledgeable on how to detect a natural gas leak?
 Yes No
3. Do you feel knowledgeable on how to react to a gas distribution leak?
 Yes No
4. Are you aware of the need to notify the City of Fairhope prior to excavation work?
 Yes No
5. Are you aware of the Alabama One Call System?
 Yes No

You may return your survey to Fairhope City Hall, the Public Utility warehouse on Section Street or return by mail to:

*City of Fairhope
Gas Department
P.O. Drawer 429
Fairhope, AL 36533*

You may also complete online, by March 31st, at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FGTLYM7>

Anyone who returns the survey will receive a Fairhope Public Utility cup or hugger.