

APRIL 2019

# NATURAL GAS MATTERS

A BETTER TOMORROW STARTS TODAY.



## IT'S NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

*KNOW WHAT'S BELOW – CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG*



Spring is here and that means it's time to head outside to finish up some outdoor projects you've been putting off all winter. But if any of those projects involve digging, there's an important call you need to make before you dig: a call to 811.



April is National Safe Digging Month and the perfect time to refresh your knowledge about safe digging practices. To prevent injury, damage and service outages, it's important that underground utility lines be identified before any digging project begins.

One phone call to 811 from wherever you are will route your call to Kansas 811, which will alert owners of pipelines, telecommunication cables and power lines to mark their buried utilities within two full business days of the request. There's no charge to you for this service. You may also submit a locate request online by visiting [www.kansasonecall.com](http://www.kansasonecall.com).

Whether you're planting a tree or shrub, tilling soil, installing a deck or setting fence posts, always remember to call 811 at least two full business days before you plan to dig to allow utility line locations to be marked.

It's easy to do. So, during National Safe Digging Month, and any time of year, be safe – call 811 before you dig. For more information about safe digging and natural gas safety, visit [www.KansasGasService.com](http://www.KansasGasService.com).



## UTILITY GRAFFITI – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Have you ever seen colorful lines spray-painted on the street or sidewalk and wondered what they were? It might not look very pretty, but this “utility graffiti” is actually there to help prevent damage to property and make construction activities safer.

Each color indicates a different type of buried asset, from natural gas pipelines to electric utilities and telecommunication cables. When a construction project is planned for a specific area, line locators mark all buried assets so workers know not to dig near the markings. While it may look like just a mess of lines to you, “utility graffiti” is actually a very important safety precaution; and unlike other graffiti, these utility markings will fade after a few weeks.

“Utility graffiti” isn’t just for construction companies. You should also call 811 at least two days before starting any digging project – no matter how small – to have underground utilities marked free of charge.

## NEW RATES APPROVED BY THE KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION

On February 5, 2019, the Kansas Corporation Commission approved a base rate increase for Kansas Gas Service. These new rates apply to natural gas service provided on and after February 6, 2019.

**Residential Customers:** The average residential customer can expect to see a total monthly increase of about \$2.40. The rate change primarily impacts the service charge, which increased from \$16.70 to \$18.70, and the delivery charge, which increased by approximately \$0.117 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) of natural gas used.

**General Sales Customers:** The rates for General Sales Service Small customers are unchanged. The service charge for Transport Eligible customers also remains the same while the delivery charge increased by \$0.29 per Mcf. The service charge for General Sales Service Large customers increased from \$36 to \$45 and the delivery charge for customers served in this class increased by \$0.03 per Mcf.

The service charge partially covers the fixed costs of providing natural gas service to our customers and the delivery charge reflects the cost of maintaining and operating the company’s natural gas delivery system.

For questions about this rate change, visit [www.KansasGasService.com](http://www.KansasGasService.com) or call Kansas Gas Service at 800-794-4780 and press 0 to speak with a representative.

## CUSTOMERS RECEIVE A ONE-TIME TAX REFORM CREDIT

Customers of Kansas Gas Service will receive a one-time credit on their April billing statements, due to federal tax reform that went into effect last year, which lowered the federal corporate tax rate to 21 percent from 35 percent. The average residential customer can expect a one-time credit of \$21.06. This credit reflects the decrease in Kansas Gas Service’s income tax expenses in 2018 through February 6, 2019, when new rates went into effect.

Kansas Gas Service customers are also benefitting from the lower federal income tax rate through our recently approved settlement agreement that included a monthly savings of \$2.87 per residential customer (\$34.44 on an annual basis) to reflect the benefit, which is built into our customer’s base rates that went into effect on February 6, 2019.