# NATURAL GAS MATTERS

**JANUARY 2020** 

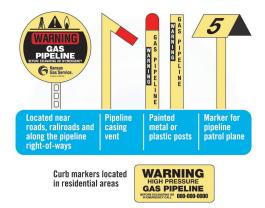


# **PIPELINE SAFETY – WHAT IS A PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY?**

Every day, you rely on underground pipelines for the natural gas that warms your home, cooks your food and heats your water. While you can't see them, these buried pipelines play a vital role in keeping your house warm and cozy by delivering the energy that makes a house a home. We regularly monitor and maintain our pipelines so that they are operating safely. You can help with pipeline safety, too, by learning a few facts about pipeline rights-of-way.

#### What Is a Pipeline Right-of-Way?

A pipeline right-of-way is a strip of land encompassing buried pipelines and other natural gas equipment that allows them to be permanently located on public and/or private land to provide natural gas service. A right-of-way allows pipeline operators, like Kansas Gas Service, to access their buried pipelines when needed.



Rights-of-way should be kept clear of obstructions to enable Kansas Gas Service employees and contractors to safely operate, patrol, inspect, maintain and repair the pipelines. It's important that you do not install any structures, plant trees or shrubs or store anything that could be an obstruction on or near rights-of-way.

In rural areas, you can spot a pipeline right-of-way by looking for line markers, like the ones shown in this

image, which are used to indicate the presence of a buried pipeline. In populated areas, pipeline markers are not always required. It is important to always call 811 – in both populated and rural areas – to have underground utility lines located and marked before beginning any excavation.

#### Call Before You Dig

Be cautious before beginning any construction or digging projects on your property, like installing a fence, mailbox, deck or sprinkler system – and always be sure to call 811. You should never dig or start building anything without first calling 811 to have the natural gas pipelines and other underground utilities marked at no cost to you.

#### **Right-of-Way Reminders:**

- Always call 811 at least two full working days before you dig. Don't dig until locations of all utilities are marked or cleared.
- Don't dig where there are marked utilities.
- Don't plant trees or tall shrubs on or near a right-of-way.
- Don't dig, build, store or place anything on or near a right-of-way.

If you smell natural gas, leave the area then call 911 and Kansas Gas Service at 888-482-4950.

For more information about rightsof-way and natural gas safety, visit **KansasGasService.com**.

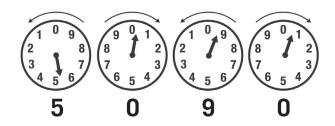
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## **HOW TO: READING YOUR METER**

Learn how to read your natural gas meter. It's easy; just follow these simple steps:

- 1. Read each dial in the direction of the arrow, starting with the dial on the left.
  - Notice the numbers are in a clockwise position on some dials and in a counterclockwise position on others.
- **2.** Record the last number the needle has passed, even if the needle has almost reached the next highest number.



## LIEAP - ENERGY ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE IN NEED

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that provides energy assistance to eligible households. LIEAP provides a one-time per year benefit that helps pay a portion of home energy costs.

The 2020 application period for LIEAP assistance begins January 2, and ends March 31. For more information on LIEAP or to find out if you qualify, visit www.dcf.ks.gov/services and scroll down to Energy Assistance (LIEAP) or call 1-800-432-0043.

## **KEEP THE LIGHTS ON WITH A NATURAL GAS GENERATOR**

Don't get caught without power during an electrical outage – invest in a natural gas generator. If your electricity goes out, the natural gas generator will start automatically, providing emergency backup power to support your electrical needs and power your home.

**Efficient.** With the higher cost of gasoline and diesel, natural gas generators are much more affordable and convenient to operate.



**Dependable.** Natural gas generators operate using the same service that serves your furnace, water heater and other natural gas appliances.

**Convenient and Safe.** Since the generator is a fixed installation and is connected directly to your underground natural gas line, you won't have the hassle of moving a portable unit and filling with gasoline or diesel, which can be dangerous if spilled.

**Automatic.** Natural gas generators are wired directly to your electrical system. Within seconds of a power outage, the unit comes on, supplies power and switches off when power returns – automatically, even when you are away from home.