



Welcome to National Grid's Tips of the Trade. National Grid is committed to your safety, and these tips are intended to help you work safely near our facilities. Please review these tips with your coworkers at your tailgate or toolbox meetings before work begins.

Please help us improve our safety tips to meet your training needs. Take our two-minute survey.

Take survey

Use our checklists to help you dig safely

Underground utility contacts cost contractors and utility owners millions of dollars in repair and service disruption costs every year. Not only that, but workers who contact buried utilities put themselves and the public at risk of injury or death. It's your responsibility to dig safely to protect yourself, your crew and the public.



Your step-by-step guides for safe excavation

National Grid's safe excavation checklists can help. Use them as your step-by-step guides to help prevent dangerous and costly damage to underground natural gas pipelines, electric power lines and other utilities.

- [Upstate New York Checklist](#)
- [Downstate New York Checklist](#)
- [Massachusetts and Rhode Island Checklist](#)

View these checklists online, or print and distribute them to your crews and coworkers before starting any excavation, demolition or earth-moving project.

Topics covered

Our checklists cover the basic steps for all non-emergency excavations and include essential tips on these important topics:

- 811 notification and wait times
- Pre-marking requirements
- Working near critical underground utilities
- Dig-ticket expiration timeframes
- Unmarked facilities and inaccurate markings
- The tolerance zone and visual verification
- Supporting exposed gas pipelines
- Cast iron pipeline precautions
- What to do if you contact a gas pipeline
- Gas leak response tips

For more contractor safety information, visit ngridssafety.com.



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

Smell Gas. Act Fast.

Call 811 or enter an online request at least 72 hours before digging in Massachusetts and Rhode Island (excluding weekends and legal holidays) and at least two full working days in New York (excluding the date of your call, weekends and legal holidays). It's the law!

- **Massachusetts and Rhode Island:** digsafe.com
- **Upstate New York:** digsafelynewyork.com
- **Metro New York, Long Island and the Rockaways:** newyork-811.com

To report emergencies, call 911 and National Grid immediately.

In case of gas emergencies:

Long Island and the Rockaways:
911 and 1-800-490-0045

Metro New York:
911 and 1-718-643-4050

Upstate New York:
911 and 1-800-892-2345

Massachusetts:
911 and 1-800-233-5325

Rhode Island:
911 and 1-800-640-1595

In case of electric emergencies:

Upstate New York:
911 and 1-800-867-5222

Massachusetts:
911 and 1-800-465-1212

Rhode Island:
911 and 1-800-465-1212

