



## Tips of the trade

Welcome to National Grid's Tips of the Trade for first responders. These tips are intended to help you respond safely and effectively to incidents involving natural gas and electricity. Please review them with your team.

### Understanding pipeline markers

#### Learn to recognize gas pipeline markers

High-visibility markers are sometimes used to indicate the approximate location of high-pressure underground pipelines. These markers display the name of the pipeline operator, the type of product carried in the pipeline and a 24-hour telephone number where the operator can be reached in the event of an emergency.

Natural gas transmission pipeline markers are generally yellow and black. National Grid's gas pipeline markers are usually freestanding; in urban areas they may also be found on utility poles. Here are examples of our natural gas pipeline markers:



#### Where you'll find them

Natural gas pipeline markers are placed near our pipelines but not necessarily directly on top of them. These markers are usually found at roadways, railroad crossings and other points along the pipeline route.

For security purposes, pipeline markers do not show the exact location, path, depth or number of gas pipelines in the area. In addition, pipelines may not follow a straight course between markers. So while these markers can help you identify the general location of our gas transmission pipelines, you cannot use them to determine a pipeline's precise location.

A more reliable way to locate gas pipelines in your response area is to register with the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) at <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov>.

#### Gas transmission pipelines call for extra care

- A National Grid representative must be onsite to supervise any excavation within 15 feet of a high-pressure natural gas transmission pipeline. If you see excavation occurring near a pipeline marker with no utility personnel present, call the number listed on the marker.

#### Pipelines can be damaged during accidents, emergency response and/or cleanup activities in an accident's aftermath

- Once a natural gas transmission pipeline's location is established, take care to park emergency vehicles where their weight will not damage the pipeline.
- Additionally, be sure emergency cleanup and excavation equipment, such as backhoes, are operated a safe distance away from the pipeline.

For more first responder safety information, visit [firstresponder.ngridsafety.com](http://firstresponder.ngridsafety.com).



Know what's below.  
811 before you dig.

Smell Gas. Act Fast.

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

Connect with us:



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