

nationalgrid



There's no excuse
for digging without
an 811 locate.

Unfortunately, we hear a lot of them.



Know what's below.
811 before you dig.

#14193 97610



Visit ngrid.safety.com and connect with us on

IMPORTANT NATURAL GAS
SAFETY INFORMATION ENCLOSED.

104 Bridge Road
Salisbury, MA 01952

nationalgrid

Top three excuses from excavators who don't notify 811 before digging:

- 1 “My project is in an area that doesn't need marking.”**
Don't be so sure. Utility lines can be buried anywhere. Never assume any area is free of underground lines.
- 2 “I already know the location of buried utilities in my dig area.”**
Doesn't matter. You must always notify the 811 service, even if you think you know where lines are buried. It's the law!
- 3 “I'm not digging deep enough to contact underground utility lines.”**
Utility depth can change over time. That's why even small or shallow jobs require an 811 locate.



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



Remember: Damage to underground gas lines can lead to serious property damage, injuries or even deaths.

Excavator error (including digging without an 811 locate) is the leading cause of damage to our natural gas pipelines in New York and Massachusetts. Nearly all gas pipeline damage can be prevented if you follow these safe digging practices:

- **Notify your state 811 service well in advance of any digging job**, no matter how shallow or small. Dial 811 or use the online ticket system at UDigNY.org, NewYork-811.com or DigSafe.com.
- **Wait the required time and verify that all utilities have been marked** by confirming with 811.
- **Remember, locate marks aren't always accurate. Dig potholes to verify the exact location and depth of all marked utilities**, using a rounded or blunt-edged shovel or vacuum excavation.
 - **Begin digging off to the side of the marked utility line.** Use a gentle, prying motion to break away soil as you approach the utility laterally.
 - **Respect the tolerance zone**, which spans the width of a marked utility plus a state-specified distance from each indicated outside edge: 24 inches in New York and 18 inches in Massachusetts.
 - **Use NO power equipment or sharp hand tools** (such as pickaxes or pointed spades) **within the tolerance zone.** Use only blunt hand tools or vacuum equipment.
 - Once you've seen the pipeline with your own eyes, **use a spotter to assure your backhoe or other power equipment remains outside the tolerance zone** and away from the line.

Always contact your state 811 center before digging and for the most current requirements.



Smell Gas. Act Fast. Be the one to call 911.

To report emergencies, **call 911** and National Grid immediately.

In case of gas emergencies:

Massachusetts:
911 and 1-800-233-5325

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

In case of electric emergencies:

Massachusetts:
911 and 1-800-465-1212

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

Always **call 911** if you suspect a gas leak!

Enroll in our **FREE** online excavator safety course today at ngridssafety.com/utility-safety-course!

- Learn to dig safely around natural gas pipelines
- Prevent costly accidents and downtime
- Earn a certificate of completion at your own pace

Note: This course is not part of New York's required Excavator Training offered by the state's one call centers.

