



# nationalgrid

HERE WITH YOU. HERE FOR YOU.

## Protect your community and your workers.

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Accidental contact during excavation is a leading cause of damage to underground gas pipelines, and of numerous natural gas explosions, that have placed property and lives at risk.

Following safe excavation guidelines protects lives and property and helps prevent the project delays, service outages, costly repairs and hefty fines that result from pipeline damage.

We are providing this excavation safety card to you as part of National Grid's public safety and damage prevention program. **Please share it with your employees and your municipal contractors.** Make sure they know the importance of maintaining public safety on your projects.



# Dig safely near gas pipelines

## Call 811 before you dig – It's the law!

Excavators must contact 811 prior to digging on public or private property. The 811 center will notify underground facility owners in the immediate area so the location of pipelines and other facilities can be marked prior to excavation.

**MA and RI:** Contact Dig Safe® at least 72 hours prior to digging, excluding weekends and legal holidays. **Call 811** or use a Quick-Ticket at **digsafe.com**.

**Upstate NY:** Contact Dig Safely New York at least two full working days prior to digging, excluding weekends and legal holidays. **Call 811** or use the location request system at **digsafelynewyork.com**.

**NYC/LI:** Contact New York 811 at least 48 hours prior to digging, excluding weekends and legal holidays. **Call 811** or use the ticket-entry system at **newyork-811.com**.

## Six steps for safer digging

1. **Pre-mark** your dig area with white paint, flags and/or stakes.
2. **Call 811** or make an online request before work begins.
3. **Wait** the required time for utilities to mark their lines.
4. **Confirm** all affected utility operators have responded to your request.
5. **Respect** the marks and maintain them while digging.
6. **Dig carefully** and follow hand-excavating rules.

## If you contact a natural gas pipeline

- **Assume there's a danger.**
- **Warn others and leave the area quickly.** Stay away until utility personnel say it is safe to return.
- **Do not use matches, lighters or anything electrical** – even a phone.
- **Leave the excavation open** and do not attempt to stop the flow of gas.
- From a safe location, **call National Grid and 911**. Call even if there is no visible damage to the gas pipeline.

**Be alert for any of these gas leak signs:** a distinctive, sulfur-like odor; a hissing, roaring or whistling sound; dirt spraying or blowing into the air; continual bubbling in water; grass or plants dead or dying for no apparent reason in an otherwise moist area.



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104 Bridge Road  
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**If you suspect a natural gas leak, call 911 and National Grid immediately.**

**Massachusetts ..... 1-800-233-5325**

**New York**

Long Island and  
the Rockaways ..... **1-800-490-0045**

Metro NY ..... **1-718-643-4050**

Upstate NY ..... **1-800-892-2345**

**Rhode Island ..... 1-800-640-1595**

**Smell Gas. Act Fast.**

Visit **nationalgridus.com** and connect with us on

