



The Pipeline Safety Pulse

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A message from Tim Graham



April is National Safe Digging Month. It's a time when many of us start planning spring and summer projects and is a great opportunity to highlight the importance of our company's damage prevention initiatives. These initiatives include a fundamental reminder for both excavators and homeowners to contact the free 811 service well in advance of starting any digging. By following this important step, individuals can ensure facility owners and operators accurately locate and mark underground lines, thereby reducing the risk of accidental damage.

Did you know that every 9 minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first notifying 811? The risk of injury or even death is real. Beyond these devastating risks, consider the costs of repairs, fines and property damage. Whether you are putting in a fence, planting a tree or building a deck, learning the locations of underground utility lines before you dig will help ensure public safety across our communities. Know what's below!

During the month of April, we will be distributing reminders to educate the public on the importance of notifying the 811 service before digging, respecting the locate marks and following safe digging practices around our gas pipelines. Please join me in sharing our damage prevention messages with family, friends, coworkers and contractors that you may see working in our community.

We all know how important it is to prevent incidents to underground utilities and maintain reliable gas service for National Grid customers. Thank you for doing your part for safe digging!

Timothy S. Graham
Vice President Gas Field Operations – Upstate New York

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March is Workplace Eye Wellness Month



Whether your work involves inspecting pipelines, operating equipment, or using devices and computer screens, your eyes are vital on the job. Workplace Eye Wellness Month is a great time to learn to protect your vision and prevent eye injuries.

Stay alert for these common eye hazards:

- Airborne debris and dust.
- Cleaning agents and hazardous materials.
- Exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays.
- Bright lights and prolonged screen usage.

Protect your eyes on the job:

- ✓ **Wear proper PPE.** Use safety glasses, goggles or face shields.
- ✓ **Keep hands clean.** Avoid rubbing your eyes after handling tools or chemicals.
- ✓ **Wear sunglasses outdoors.** UV protection is essential – even on cloudy days.
- ✓ **Take screen breaks.** Use the 20-20-20 rule: Every 20 minutes, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

Be sure to report and respond to all eye injuries. Know where to find eye wash stations and seek immediate care if needed.



Safety awareness



Ladder safety

Preventing workplace injuries

Ladders are essential in our industry. Unfortunately, improper ladder usage often leads to serious injuries. March is Ladder Safety Month, a great time to reinforce safe practices.

Avoid these common ladder hazards:

- **Skipping inspections.** Damaged ladders increase risks.
- **Unstable setup.** Uneven surfaces can cause falls.
- **Overreaching.** Leaning too far shifts balance.
- **Exceeding weight limits.** Carrying heavy tools can lead to collapse.

Follow these ladder safety best practices:

- ✓ **Inspect before use.** Check for cracks, loose rungs and stability.
- ✓ **Set up on solid ground.** Use level surfaces and secure footing.
- ✓ **Maintain three points of contact.** Keep two hands and one foot (or vice versa) on the ladder.
- ✓ **Use the right ladder.** Choose the proper height and weight capacity.

Let's climb smart and stay safe!

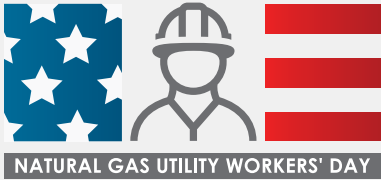




Safety awareness



Natural Gas Utility Workers' Day



On March 18, we celebrate the hardworking natural gas utility workers who keep our communities safe and our energy systems running.

Why March 18?

This date marks the 1937 school explosion in New London, Texas, which led to stronger natural gas safety regulations. It reminds us of the critical role that safety plays in our industry.

How do we honor our gas workers?

We recognize the professionalism and commitment of National Grid's gas pipeline teams in three critical areas:

- **Safety first.** Our workers uphold the highest safety standards.
- **Reliability.** They ensure uninterrupted gas service, day and night.
- **Expertise.** From pipeline maintenance to emergency response, their skills and experience protect our communities.

Thank you for your dedication to safety, service and excellence!

April is Safe Dig Month

Call 811 before you dig!

Unsafe digging practices damage buried utility lines every day, interrupting critical services and all too often resulting in fires, explosions and serious injuries. Safe Dig Month reminds us to follow these best practices to prevent injuries, outages and costly repairs:

1. **Pre-mark your dig area** with white paint, flags and/or stakes.
2. **Call 811** or make an online dig ticket request before any excavation starts.
3. **Wait the required time** for utilities to locate and mark their lines.
4. **Respect all locate marks** and maintain them while digging.
5. **Dig with care** and physically locate marked utility lines by potholing.
6. **Report all damage.** If you hit a line, leave the area and report it immediately.



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





Earth Day – April 22

Powering a sustainable future

On Earth Day, we reaffirm our company commitment to sustainability – and we invite our employees to do the same.

As a natural gas and electric utility, we work to reduce emissions, improve efficiency and protect the environment. We invest in **cleaner energy solutions**, including infrastructure upgrades. We use **eco-friendly practices** in fleet management, fieldwork and facilities. And we offer programs to help customers reduce their **carbon footprint**.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- ✓ **Save energy.** Turn off unused lights, appliances and equipment.
- ✓ **Reduce waste.** Recycle and dispose of hazardous materials properly.
- ✓ **Support green initiatives.** Join local clean-ups and conservation efforts.

National Volunteer Month: Making a difference

April is National Volunteer Month, celebrating the spirit of service that strengthens our communities. Our employees are committed to giving back through community engagement and environmental stewardship initiatives:



- **Community cleanups.** Teams participate in park beautification and tree planting.
- **Educational outreach.** Employees volunteer at schools, offering career panels and educational programs.
- **Environmental conservation.** Partnerships with groups like the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society support cleanups and wildlife protection.

How can you get involved? Engage with local causes and nonprofits that align with your passions. Join a volunteer event and participate in company-organized or local activities, or share your expertise by supporting energy education, safety workshops and/or conservation projects.

Volunteering strengthens communities and fosters teamwork. Let's make a difference together!





Managing Underground Safety Training (MUST)

MUST provides an open forum for contractors, municipalities, facility operators, utility locators and one-call staff to improve New England damage prevention laws and procedures.

MUST hosts safety training seminars for excavators and locators that enhance excavator safety, promote damage prevention and help build

strong relationships. We held our annual MUST Seminar recently on Cape Cod, and the turnout and participation were great! Thank you to Arnold Larson, Jimmy Lothrop and the Cape Cod Damage Prevention Team for your partnership and commitment.



A message from Richard Delaney:

Had a great morning on 2/13 down on the Cape at one of our 2025 MUST meetings with David Santana. David, along with others from National Grid and our ally partners in the Pipelines, 811 and the DPU, hosted a large breakfast meeting with over 200 attendees from the trades, municipalities and other organizations. Lots of great discussions and interactions about digging safe and protecting assets and each other!



Congratulations to the Winchester, MA, Fire Department!

The entire Winchester Fire Department completed National Grid's First Responder Utility Safety e-learning program. As a result, each firefighter earned a personalized Certificate of Completion.

In February, National Grid presented the fire department with a plaque to recognize this achievement and the department's commitment to public safety.

