



## Underground Gas Pipe Maintenance

You are receiving this notice because some of our customers have a natural gas line running underground from your gas meter to a structure or a gas burning appliance. As your natural gas distributor, the City of Madison in accordance with federal regulations is to make you aware of certain safety recommendations regarding your underground natural gas piping.

The City of Madison operates our gas system with an emphasis on safety. We are required to design, operate and maintain our underground natural gas pipeline system in accordance with prescribed federal safety standards. The gas department does not maintain the gas piping downstream of the gas meter. This is the responsibility of the customer who owns that piping. If the buried pipe is not properly maintained, it may be subject to corrosion (if the piping is metallic) and/or leakage.

To ensure the continued safe and reliable operation of these lines, the buried piping should be checked periodically. You (or the building owner) are advised to contact a licensed plumber or heating contractor to assist you in locating and inspecting your buried gas piping. If any unsafe condition is discovered, repairs should be made ASAP. The Yellow Pages are an excellent source for listings of licensed plumbers and heating contractors.

The City of Madison operates a natural gas system in Walton County in the vicinity of Youth Jersey Road south of Hwy. 138, PJ East Road, City of Jersey, Jersey Social Circle Road, and East Hightower Road area.

If we can answer any questions regarding this notice, please call Madison City Hall at 706-342-1251. (You may disregard this notice if you do not have buried piping beyond the gas meter.)

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Call Before You Dig Notification

In our community, the City of Madison provides natural gas to more than 1650 customers through a network of underground distribution lines. Main gas lines branch into household service lines. The pipes are typically made of “caution yellow” plastic or tar-coated steel which helps prevent corrosion. As an industry steel pipes are being replaced with the more durable plastic piping. The main lines are typically 2-inches in diameter and are located roughly two-feet below the surface, while service lines are typically half-inch to three-quarter-inch in diameter and buried 12- to 18-inches below the surface.

That’s why it’s important to “Call Before You Dig” or move earth in any way. Whether you’re installing an underground dog fence, running water to an outbuilding or post-hole digging for a new mail box post, underground piping and other utilities can be damaged.



When you call Georgia One Call at **1-800-282-7411, or 811**, they will locate all buried utility lines on your property, so you can safely dig and prevent a potentially hazardous condition. In 2004 the Federal Office of Pipeline Safety recorded 48 cases of third party excavation damage to

distribution lines nationwide resulting in more than \$10 million dollars worth of property damage and four injuries. Calling before you dig can prevent a costly or even deadly mistake.

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To learn more about our natural gas service and the benefits of natural gas,  
Please call **(706) 342-1251**.

## Smell Gas Notification

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless gas; however, a chemical that smells like rotten eggs is added to help detect a possible leak. If you smell gas, or just think you might be smelling gas, please take these precautions promptly:

- Leave the area immediately.
- Call your local gas provider at **(706) 342-1251 or 911** from a neighboring home or business.
- Never turn on or off switches or use a flashlight or phone in the presence of the gas smell, because an electric spark could ignite the gas, causing an explosion.
- Do not re-enter the premise/area until a leak investigation has been conducted; only Emergency Response Personnel should enter the premise/area.

Do your part to familiarize yourself and your family with these natural gas safety tips and continue to enjoy the value, comfort and benefits of America’s cleanest, most efficient energy source!

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This message is brought to you as a public service by:

City of Madison  
P.O. Box 32  
132 N. Main Street  
Madison, Georgia 30650

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