

## Do you know what Natural Gas smells like ?

[ This is the title of a public safety bulletin sent by the Atlanta Gas Light company to homeowners and businesses near one of their natural gas pipelines. The contents are summarized below. ]

**You Play a Part in Pipeline Safety** Although you may not currently be an Atlanta Gas Light customer, you may live, work or drive near one of their natural gas pipelines. Consequently, it is important for you to know how to recognize natural gas leaks.

**Pipeline Markers and Right-of-Way** A *pipeline right-of-way* is a defined piece of land where pipelines are installed above or below ground. They can be identified by a wide, cleared strip of land with Pipeline Markers. If a pipeline right-of-way is adjacent to your property, you must not install new landscaping or physical structures, called encroachments, within the right-of-way. If you have a question about an activity which might affect a pipeline right-of-way, please contact Atlanta Gas Light at 800-427-5463.

Pipeline Markers like the one pictured indicate the *general* area of the pipeline but *not its exact location or depth*. A pipeline may not always be marked in all areas, so it is important to always “Call Before You Dig”. If you suspect a pipeline emergency, call us at 877-427-4321. Information about transmission pipelines in your community is available online at [npms.phmsa.dot.gov](http://npms.phmsa.dot.gov).

**Stay Alert and Stay Safe !** Although natural gas pipeline incidents are uncommon, you can help prevent emergencies by knowing the signs of a potential problem. Below are some tips on how to identify a possible natural gas leak.

**LOOK** for blowing dirt, discolored vegetation or continued bubbling in standing water.

**LISTEN** for a hissing or roaring noise near a natural gas appliance or line.

**SMELL** for a “rotten egg” odor. Natural gas is colorless and odorless – an additive called mercaptan gives it this smell.

If you suspect a natural gas leak do the following :

**DO NOT** try to identify the source or stop the leak yourself.

**LEAVE** the area immediately and move a safe distance away from the potential leak.

**AVOID** using any sources of ignition such as cellphones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, vehicles, light switches or landlines. Natural gas can ignite from a spark or open flame and cause a fire or explosion.

**CALL** Atlanta Gas Light at **877-427-4321** or **911**. Once you are out of the area of the suspected leak and in a safe place, stay away until Atlanta Gas Light or emergency personnel indicate it is safe to return.



If you have any questions, call 800-427-5463 or visit [atlantagaslight.com/safety](http://atlantagaslight.com/safety) for additional natural gas safety information.