

Planning a home improvement? Planting a tree? Installing a deck or fence? WAIT! Here's what you need to know:

Homeowners often don't remember to have the utility lines marked on their property. But every digging job requires a call to the "Call Before You Dig" hotline at 8-1-1. It doesn't matter whether your project is as small as digging a hole for a fence post or mail box post or as large as installing a deck or digging a fish pond or even just planting a tree, you should call before you dig!



In our community, City of Sugar Hill provides natural gas to more than 9,000 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 just 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 or running water to an outbuilding, underground piping and other utilities can be damaged. When you call the "Call Before You Dig" hotline at 8-1-1, they will connect you to local authorities who will locate all buried utility lines on your property, so you can safely dig and prevent a potentially hazardous condition. The Common Ground Alliance recently announced findings that showed Americans unintentionally damaged underground utilities

approximately once per minute, every year, risking serious injuries and costly service disruptions. In addition, people that failed to notify local authorities caused approximately 40 percent of all utility damage, making it the top reason for these dangerous and costly incidents.



**N**atural gas is a colorless, odorless gas; however, a chemical that smells like rotten eggs is added to help detect a possible leak. There are three ways to detect a natural gas leak; LISTEN, LOOK & SMELL. If you hear a hissing sound near appliances or the gas meter, see bubbles in a pond or creek on your property or dead patches of grass or plants surrounded by live areas or if you smell gas, or just think you might be smelling gas, leave the area immediately and call your local gas provider during normal business hours @ 770-271-2137 or after hours @ 770-945-6716 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 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!

**REMEMBER to  
Call Before You Dig  
8-1-1**

This message is brought to you by  
City of Sugar Hill  
as a public service. To learn more  
about our natural gas service and  
the benefits of natural gas,  
Call 770-271-2137.



## Natural Gas:



**Can you dig it?**



City of Sugar Hill  
1498 Hillcrest Dr.  
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770-271-2137