

Pipeline Safety Information for School Officials



For inclusion in your Emergency Preparedness plan

Why are you receiving this pamphlet?

You are receiving this information because TransCanada has existing gas pipeline facilities located near your school or schools within your District. We want to ensure that you are appropriately aware of these facilities and have considered them in your emergency and evacuation plans.

Pipelines are the safest method of transporting the huge volumes of gas required to meet essential energy needs across North America. Although rare, pipeline leaks can occur and TransCanada wants to ensure that you, your employees, your students, and all those who use your facilities, have the information they need to work, learn and play safely near our pipelines.



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



TransCanada
In business to deliver

Are you near a pipeline? How do you know?

Most pipelines are buried underground in an area of cleared land often referred to as the “right-of-way”. Markers are used to indicate a pipeline’s **approximate** location as well as the operator of the pipeline, and the product being shipped. You’ll also find the operator’s emergency contact phone number. Below are examples of TransCanada’s pipeline markers.



Line Marker



Warning Sign with Marker Post



Vent Marker



Aerial Marker

Leak Recognition and Response

Although pipeline leaks are rare, it’s important to know the signs and how to respond.



What you may smell:

- Natural gas is said to be odorless, but some people detect a hydrocarbon smell.
- If the gas is odorized, it may smell similar to rotten eggs. Local distribution companies add odorant to the gas they transport throughout communities.

What you may see:

- Dead or dying vegetation on or near a pipeline in a normally green area.
- Water bubbling or blowing into the air at a pond, creek, or river.
- Dirt being blown or appearing thrown into the air.
- Fire coming from the ground or appearing to burn above the ground.
- An accumulation of ice or frost over the pipeline (in the summer).

What you may hear:

- A roaring, blowing, hissing, bubbling or loud whistling sound.



Be Prepared

Knowledge and advance preparation are essential to properly respond to potential emergencies. The following suggestions will help you become more prepared.

- Familiarize yourself, your faculty, and your students with nearby pipelines or facilities.
- Note any pipeline markers in the area and have pipeline company contact information available.
- Incorporate the information contained in this factsheet into your Emergency Preparedness Plans.
- Conduct emergency scenarios or tabletop exercises simulating a pipeline incident at regular intervals as you would for other potential emergency situations.
- Contact TransCanada if you have any questions about your plan.

If You Suspect a Leak

If you witness any of the typical signs listed, or any other unusual sights, sounds or smells near a pipeline location, it is important that you follow these steps:

DO

- Activate your school's Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Leave the area immediately and move to a safe location (825 yards) as defined in your Emergency Preparedness Plan. Ensure all students and faculty do the same
- Leave any equipment "as is"
- Leave any machinery "as is"
- Call "911" when in the safe location defined in your Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Secure the area
- Warn others
- Move upwind
- Call TransCanada's emergency number: **1.800.447.8066**

DON'T

- Use a telephone of any kind until in the safe location defined in your Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Light a match
- Start an engine
- Switch lights on or off
- Switch electrical equipment on or off
- Turn machinery on or off
- Create heat or sparks
- Touch any leaking liquids

DO NOT RETURN TO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS UNTIL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN THE ALL CLEAR.

Emergency Preparedness Planning

If you would like to discuss your school's Emergency Preparedness Plan or have additional questions about pipeline safety, please email public_awareness@transcanada.com or call **1.855.458.6715**.

Using the Pipeline Right-of-Way

The green space above a pipeline is safe for students to play on but certain precautions must be taken by those planning to disturb the ground on the pipeline right-of-way.

- The right-of-way is **not** an appropriate muster point in the case of a school evacuation.
- TransCanada needs access to the right-of-way to inspect and maintain the pipeline; therefore the right-of-way must be kept clear of structures.
- If there are plans for any of the following activities or other similar activities, please call “**811**” first:
 - installing or replacing fence posts, goal posts or nets
 - paving courts for basketball or tennis
 - building ramps for skateboarding
 - erecting playground equipment
 - installing portable offices or classrooms
 - planting trees or gardens
 - paving over the right-of-way
- “**811**” will notify TransCanada of your intent to cross or excavate. Please call at least ten days in advance so that TransCanada will have time to review your plans.
- Following approval from TransCanada, please call “**811**” at least 2 business days before you begin work to have the location of underground utilities marked. This is a free service.
- If you observe any unusual or suspicious activities near a pipeline, please immediately report the issue to law enforcement or the pipeline company.

Important Phone Numbers

U.S. One Call Center: **811**
For Emergencies: **1.800.447.8066**

General Inquiries:

Phone 1.855.458.6715
Email public_awareness@transcanada.com

TransCanada is regulated by US Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in the United States.

National Pipeline Mapping System (N.P.M.S.)

You can access further information regarding transmission pipelines located in your community transporting hazardous liquids or natural gas through the National Pipeline Mapping System at www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov

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