



# April is Safe Digging Month!

**Contact VA811 before you dig!**

Are you prepared to dig safely?

- Digging a fence? **Contact VA811**
- Planting a garden? **Contact VA811**
- Installing a pool? **Contact VA811**

Virginia Natural Gas reminds all do-it-yourselfers to contact **VA811** by phone (dial **8-1-1**) or online at **VA811.com** before starting ANY digging project. It's for everyone's safety, it's **free**, it's fast and it's the law!

**Know what's below and dig with CARE:**

- Contact **811** before you dig
- Allow the required time for utility markings
- Respect the marks
- Excavate carefully



# Know Your Flags



**White**  
Proposed Excavation



**Pink**  
Temporary Survey Markings



**Orange**  
Communication, Alarm  
or Signal Lines, Cables or  
Conduit



**Red**  
Electric Power Lines,  
Cables, Conduit and  
Lighting Cables



**Blue**  
Potable Water



**Green**  
Sewer and Drain Lines



**Purple**  
Reclaimed Water,  
Irrigation and Slurry Lines



**Yellow**  
Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum  
or Gaseous Materials

## What to do if you smell gas:

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless fuel. As a safety precaution, we add a chemical odorant called mercaptan that gives natural gas an odor often associated with rotten eggs. This distinctive scent allows you to smell a potential leak if it occurs.

- **Look** for discolored vegetation, blowing dirt or continuously bubbling water in the area of a buried gas line.
- **Listen** for a hissing sound.
- **Smell** for the distinctive "rotten egg" odor of natural gas.
- **Leave** the area immediately, warning others in the area as you leave. Keep everyone away from the area until emergency assistance arrives.
- **Avoid** touching anything that may cause a spark. This includes lighters, matches, cigarettes, flashlights, light switches and telephones in the area of the suspected leak. Wait until you are a safe distance away before using your cell phone.
- **Call 911**, then call Virginia Natural Gas at **877.572.3342** once you are out of the area of the suspected leak and in a safe place. Stay away until emergency personnel and/or Virginia Natural Gas indicate it is safe to return.

[virginianaturalgas.com/safedigging](http://virginianaturalgas.com/safedigging)