

OUR PIPELINES ARE LOCATED OUT OF SIGHT BUT NOT OUT OF MIND

*A message from Butch Rockers,
City of Garnett Gas and Water Department Superintendent*

Like all forms of energy, and like many other products in your home, natural gas has the potential to do damage.

Natural gas is piped underground to our customers at varying depths and pressures. This underground piping is also in different sizes, ranging from 1-inch to 6-inch pipe on all of our service lines and mains. The oldest and original natural gas piping in our system is made of bare steel material, which in time will have to be replaced for safety reasons due to its age and corrosive nature. Other gas piping in our system is made of coated and wrapped steel, and some PVC pipe. Currently, nearly all of the gas piping we use is made of a bright yellow, polyethylene plastic which is an excellent, low cost material for gas piping.

WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NATURAL GAS:

1. Natural gas itself is colorless and odorless, unless a distinctive odor is added.
2. Natural gas purchased by our customers contains an added distinctive odorant which is always present.
3. Natural gas is lighter than air and if released will rise and diffuse rapidly.
4. Although natural gas itself is not poisonous, it can cause asphyxiation in a confined space due to lack of oxygen.
5. Natural gas will burn if it escapes, mixes with air and is ignited. Escaping gas can be ignited by open flames, sparks from electrical switches, motors, ignition systems, mechanical equipment and flying rocks.

HELP PREVENT A GAS PIPELINE EMERGENCY - PARTICIPATE IN OUR DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM

You can help us prevent a natural gas pipeline emergency.

- Should a gas line, meter, or any gas facility become damaged or gas escape, report it immediately by calling Garnett City Hall (785) 448-5496 or after business hours contact the Garnett Police Dispatch Center (785) 448-6823; or dial 9-1-1.
- Before your dig or excavate contact the KANSAS ONE CALL SYSTEM

(1-800-DIGSAFE or 1-800-344-7233). Please note that pipeline markers indicate only the approximate location of buried pipeline. To find the exact location contact the KANSAS ONE CALL SYSTEM.

- _ For questions, concerns, or when in need of additional information regarding natural gas please call city hall (785) 448-5496.
- _ In case of an emergency, Dial 9-1-1.

REPORT A GAS PIPELINE EMERGENCY TO US!

If you should happen to be in the vicinity of a broken, leaking or damaged gas line, leave the area quickly. Warn others and notify us (City of Garnett) immediately.

Stay away from the site, encourage others to stay away.

Natural gas leaks may be detected by dead vegetation, blowing earth, sound, and by smell where gas is odorized.

Reporting A Natural Gas Leak

If you think you smell natural gas, report it as soon as possible to the Garnett City Hall by calling (785) 448-5496. If after business hours call the Garnett Dispatch Center at (785) 448-6823. The gas department will be dispatched.

Note: If you have a gas emergency and the gas odor is very strong and it seems to be everywhere, **DO NOT USE** your telephone or cell phone. Evacuate immediately. **DO NOT OPERATE** any light switches or attempt to air out the house. Go to a neighbor's house and notify the city's gas department by calling 9-1-1. Wait there for emergency personnel to arrive.

If you think you need help in identifying the natural gas odorant smell please contact city hall. There is a brochure available with "scratch and sniff" to help familiarize you with the odor. If you notice any strange, unidentifiable odor report it so that the gas department may help in determining if it is natural gas.

WE SURVEY FOR LEAKS

To help insure public safety, the City of Garnett Gas Department conducts a survey of all gas mains and service lines, including the service line that runs to the foundation wall of your home. This is done on annual basis using sensitive gas detection equipment. The gas leak survey is done at various times throughout the spring and summer months. If you see a city employee walking in your neighborhood with an instrument and a probe to the ground, he is looking for possible natural gas leaks so that any evidence of a leak can be taken care of long before it becomes a hazard.

Exposing a Silent Killer – Carbon Monoxide

Winter is the time of year when the City of Garnett Gas Department wishes to remind all city residents to be aware of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Potential carbon monoxide sources in the home include:

- Unvented space heater.
- Gas or wood burning fireplace.
- Improperly maintained or faulty oven, range or cooktop vent.
- Operating barbecue grill in enclosed area such as the garage.
- Leaking, cracked, corroded or disconnected flue or vent pipes.
- Plugged or cracked heat exchangers.
- Improperly installed or faulty furnace, water heater or gas clothes dryer.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas that is very toxic. If enough CO is inhaled it can cause death. Some of the first signs of CO poisoning are flu-like symptoms, headache, dizziness, weakness and nausea.

Have a professional regularly check the furnace and venting system in your home. Also, consider purchasing carbon monoxide detectors. It could save your life.

Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning by following a few safety tips:

- Don't try to heat your kitchen or home by leaving the stove on or oven door open.
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- If you have an attached garage, pull the car all the way out when warming it up. Leaving the garage door open is not enough.
- Have a professional regularly check combustion appliances.
- Contact Garnett City Hall (785) 448-5496 or the Garnett Police Dispatch Center (785) 448-6823 if you have concerns about carbon monoxide or if you smell natural gas inside or outside your home.