



Important Information You Need to Know...

Public Awareness - Natural Gas Safety PROTECT PEOPLE FIRST, THEN PROPERTY.

The purpose of our natural gas mains and service lines are to transport the gas to our businesses and individual homes. It is estimated that there are more than 800,000 miles of underground gas mains and service lines in the United States today. Fortunately, pipeline accidents are extremely rare, but they can occur. Natural gas is very flammable, potentially hazardous and can be explosive under certain conditions.

Garnett has approximately 44 miles of natural gas mains and 20 miles of service lines that are made up of bare steel, protected steel, polyethylene plastic and some PVC, all of which are monitored for problems and leaks.

The City invests significant time and money to maintain the quality and integrity of its gas system. Yearly we conduct a leak survey of all underground mains and service lines up to the structure's foundation wall. We odorize our gas system 24/7, 365 days a year, so that a gas leak can be detected by smell and reported. The Garnett Gas Department monitors construction and excavation activities taking place around all natural gas facilities and we prioritize and identify the areas in our system that needs maintenance (also known as, "Integrity Management".)

The City is responsible for the safety and security of our pipeline and pipeline facilities. To help maintain the integrity of our facilities and right-of-ways, it is important that you play a role in helping us protect against unauthorized excavations and destructive activities. Here is what you can do to help:

- Be familiar with our natural gas facilities in your area. Things such as meters, regulator facilities and pipeline marker signs.
- Know the telephone numbers to call and keep them handy:
 - Garnett City Hall - (785) 448-5496
 - Anderson County Emergency Communications (Dispatch) - (785) 448-6823
 - Emergency - DIAL 9-1-1
- BEFORE you dig, call Kansas One Call: (800) DIG-SAFE or 1-800-344-7233 OR dial 8-1-1. 811 is a federally mandated number to get utilities located before you dig.

Again, we remind you to CALL before you DIG. It is toll-free and it is required by law. Anytime you plan projects that require digging call the Kansas One Call number or 8-1-1.

The gas department regularly communicates, plans and trains with our local emergency personnel, such as the fire department, police and police dispatchers. Upon a report of a gas leak or related incident, the proper departments can be dispatched to provide public safety assistance and to respond to the gas emergency.

Can you recognize a natural gas leak?

Answer: Trust your senses. Seeing continuous bubbling in a wet or flooded area, dead vegetation or discolored plants in an otherwise healthy environment could signal a possible gas leak. A quiet to loud hissing sound could also indicate a possible natural gas leak. In most cases, here in Garnett gas leaks are recognized using the sense of smell. Our gas system is odorized all the time so that you can detect a possible gas leak by smell.

How to report a natural gas leak:

If you think you smell natural gas inside or outside a structure, report it to the gas department as soon as possible by calling Garnett City Hall (785) 448-5496. If after business hours please call the Anderson County Emergency Communications (Dispatch Center) at (785) 448-6823. If you have a gas emergency and the gas odor is very strong and it seems to be everywhere, DO NOT OPERATE any light switches or attempt to air out the building. Exit the property, go to a neighbor and then notify the gas department by calling 9-1-1. Wait there for emergency personnel to arrive.

Any additional gas safety related information is always free and available at Garnett City Hall.

Thank you,

Earl "Butch" Rocker
Gas Department Superintendent

CITY OF GARNETT
NATURAL GAS PUBLIC AWARENESS PLAN

Emergency Officials

As in any emergency, including a natural gas leak or pipeline incident, the emergency responder's primary focus is public safety; to help anyone who may be injured, to prevent others from being injured, and to contain the hazard.

In the event of a natural gas emergency, such as a house reported to be full of gas, accidents involving escaping gas at our gas facilities such as at meter settings, regulator facilities, valve settings, etc., it is very important that the emergency officials and the gas department work together.

The gas department will focus on the gas pipeline leak/incident, bringing it to a conclusion as quickly and safely as possible. The gas department is trained to recognize the gas dangers and respond appropriately to safely minimize the hazard.

What would you, as an emergency first responder, do to achieve the goal of protecting people first, then property, during a natural gas emergency?

- Before rushing on to the scene of a potential gas danger situation, determine an area that is safe.
- Keep yourself and equipment in a safe area, preferably upwind of the incident.
- Think about and minimize potential ignition sources. Some examples include cigarettes, flashlights, telephones, radios, vehicles (do not park vehicles over service manhole covers).
- Safely secure the area as best you can, evacuate and control access.
- If a pipeline or facility is not burning but gas is blowing, stay clear (upwind). Prevent ignition sources.
- If a pipeline or facility is burning, try to prevent the fire from spreading but do not extinguish the pipeline fire.
- Contact the gas department.
- Set up a command area where emergency officials and gas department officials can gather information to further make decisions.

The gas department will:

- Send the operator on call to the scene (command center).
- Have the gas department superintendent contacted and in route.
- Handle the gas emergency until the superintendent or senior personnel arrive.
- Through their training and gas monitoring equipment, take the necessary steps to minimize the danger to stop the leak.
- Determine when it is safe to investigate and enter the area.

NATURAL GAS PUBLIC AWARENESS PLANT

Public Officials

Construction and maintenance activities in our ROW (right-of-ways) are always a concern. This is mentioned to remind you that many of our ROW, consisting of street easements and utility easements, have natural gas pipeline facilities located on them usually along with other utilities (electric, water, sewer, cable television, telephone).

Gas pipeline markers provide the public and emergency responders with critical information. They are located around town and in some of our more remote locations and ROW. These markers are post-like, yellow with black lettering that mark an approximate (NOT exact) location of buried gas lines. The markers also remind people that there are gas facilities in the area.

In order to reduce the chance of third party damage, we perform routine maintenance and leak surveys as required by federal and state laws. We must be able to access these ROW, keeping trees, shrubs, fences, buildings and other encroachments out of these ROW as much as possible. This helps to ensure pipeline integrity and safety.