



PUBLIC AWARENESS ANNOUNCEMENT



The City's Public Awareness Program is intended to educate the public about Natural Gas Safety and to avoid injuries or loss of life as a result of natural gas leaks or damage to underground pipelines.

CITY OF DEMING NATURAL GAS SYSTEM:

- 154 miles of underground piping
- City Gas Department installs Natural Gas lines in City Right-of-Way
- City Customers are responsible for Natural Gas lines within own private property (yard lines), with few exceptions

NATURAL GAS IS SAFE WHEN HANDLED PROPERLY:

- Natural Gas is odorless colorless and tasteless
- An odorant much like the smell of **Rotten Eggs** is added so that it is readily recognizable. The smell aids in leak detection and helps people to notice leaking gas before it builds up to dangerous levels.
- Natural gas is Nontoxic (Nonpoisonous). However, natural gas can displace the oxygen necessary to support life in a closed environment.
- Natural gas is lighter than air. In the open, gas rises into the air. In a closed area, it will rise to the highest level and accumulate.

REPORTING ANY SUSPECTED GAS LEAK BY CALLING:

- **911**
- City Hall at (575) 546-8848

THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE NATURAL GAS SYSTEM IS DAMAGE CAUSED BY EXCAVATION:

- It is everyone's responsibility to help prevent damage to natural gas pipes.
- State law requires all individuals planning to excavate to "**Call Before You Dig - 811**", at least two days prior to digging
- The City's underground gas lines will be marked on the ground
- The law requires that these underground facilities be hand exposed before excavating with any mechanical equipment

LEAKS CAN BE DETECTED SEVERAL WAYS:

- Smell (Pungent odor much like that of **Rotten Eggs**)
- Dead vegetation or discolored soil, blowing dust or a hissing noise in the area near a gas pipeline
- Gas detection equipment is used by the City's Gas Department and Emergency Responders

IF A LEAK IS SUSPECTED:

- Leave the area immediately.
- Do not operate any electrical or battery operated devices that could create a spark including cell phones.
- Do not smoke or light a match
- Report the leak only after leaving the area.

Additional information is available at City Hall or at www.nmonecall.org