What to do if there’s a natural gas emergency

If you smell natural gas (a rotten egg odor):

1. Go to a safe place
2. Call 9-1-1
3. Call Consumers Energy 800-477-5050 (24/7)
For Your Safety:
Natural gas is naturally colorless, tasteless, odorless and nontoxic. A “rotten egg” odor is added before delivery to homes and businesses so gas leaks can be detected quickly, without special equipment.

What to Know
Signs of a natural gas leak may include:
- Rotten egg smell
- Blowing or hissing sound
- Dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area
- Dirt or dust blowing from a hole in the ground
- Bubbling in wet or flooded areas
- Flames, if a leak has ignited

What to Do
Leave the area immediately, without using anything that could ignite the natural gas.
- Do not use any electrical device, such as light switches, telephones/cell phones, garage door openers
- Do not use an open flame, matches or lighters
- Do not try to locate the source of the gas leak
- Do not try to shut off any natural gas valves or gas appliances
- Do not start vehicles
- Do not re-enter the building or return to the area until our employee says it’s safe to do so

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1. Call 8-1-1 or visit elocate.missdig811.org at least three working days before digging to request underground utility lines be marked.

2. Wait for utilities to be marked. Natural gas lines are marked with yellow stakes, flags or paint.

3. Avoid digging near marks. Before using power equipment within 4 feet of marked lines, hand dig to expose the pipe. If you have difficulty finding the pipe within 18 inches of marks, contact MISS DIG 811.

4. Respect the marks. Be aware of all underground utility marks and other gas facilities such as valve boxes and regulator boxes. Do not place construction materials or equipment downriggers over marks.

5. Call if you make contact with underground lines. If you hit or nick a pipeline while digging, stop and call Consumers Energy immediately.

CONTACT 8-1-1 even for routine jobs, such as planting shrubs and trees, replacing a mailbox post or installing a fence, deck or a basketball pole.

The call and service are free

Learn more at ConsumersEnergy.com/gassafety

If you are a Consumers Energy customer, you can call 9-1-1 and 800-477-5050 for help with a natural gas emergency.