

## APRIL IS SAFE DIGGING MONTH!

This month is dedicated to raising awareness of **safe digging practices** to improve safety and reduce damages to underground infrastructure.

Heritage Gas would like to remind everyone to use safe digging practices and to always **call before you dig** prior to starting outdoor excavations.

**One free, easy call gets gas lines marked out in your work area:**

- ✓ Protect Your Employees
- ✓ Protect the Public
- ✓ Avoid the Cost of Repairing Underground Lines



### Dig with C.A.R.E

Call **1-866-313-3030** before you dig

**A**llow required time for marking out lines (48 hours)

**R**espect the marks (Lines are marked by flags, paint or other markers)

**E**xcavate carefully (hand dig to determine the exact location of underground utilities)



**Contractors have a responsibility to protect themselves and others on their worksites.**



### Occupational Health & Safety Regulations – Call Before You Dig:

Having utilities located prior to completing any excavation work is a requirement under the Nova Scotia Occupational Health & Safety Act. OH&S Inspectors will be looking for locates on your worksite.

**Excerpt from the NS Occupational Safety General Regulations (N.S. Reg. 53/2013):**

#### **Underground utility lines**

153 (2) Where the location of any utility line is likely to endanger a person at a workplace, an employer must ensure that before beginning an excavation or trench the utility that owns or operates the utility line is contacted in order to have the utility clearly locate and mark the utility line to the physical limit of the utility line.



# Natural Gas Awareness Bulletin

Call Before You Dig – 1-866-313-3030

## Damage to Natural Gas Pipelines

Each year, underground infrastructure, such as natural gas lines, are jeopardized or damaged because of the failure to take a simple but important safety step before starting an excavation project.

Heritage Gas and other underground utilities are encouraging homeowners and contractors to call before you dig for locates to identify physical assets underground. Doing so can prevent injuries, avoid property damage and reduce the inconvenience of outages.

In 2015, Heritage Gas responded to 2 Incidents in which a gas line was hit and natural gas was released into the air. These situations can be eliminated with a simple phone call.

Fortunately for everyone involved, none of these situations resulted in injuries to contractors, members of the public, or emergency responders.



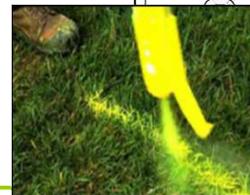
### Natural Gas Pipeline Damages:

- Create hazardous situations for your employees and the public
- Require emergency response agencies and trained Heritage Gas personnel to effectively control and repair pipelines.
- Cost time and money
- Can result in Administrative Penalties issued by the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education



## Heritage Gas Locates:

- Expires after **14 days**
  - During construction season, we are continually installing new mains and services
  - Phone 1-866-313-3030 to have your locate renewed
- Good **ONLY** for the work area indicated on the locate
  - The work area you have indicated will be clearly marked.
  - If your work area changes, phone 1-866-313-3030 for a new locate.
- Good **ONLY** for the type of work indicated on the locate



## Natural Gas Training Session for Your Employees

Heritage Gas offers training sessions (**free of charge**) which provides info on:

- Introduction to Natural Gas
- **Call Before You Dig** process
- Natural gas pipelines and facilities
- Emergency Situations



If you would like more information on any of the items above, or would like to arrange a training session for your employees, please contact Chris MacAulay at (902) 466-1678.