

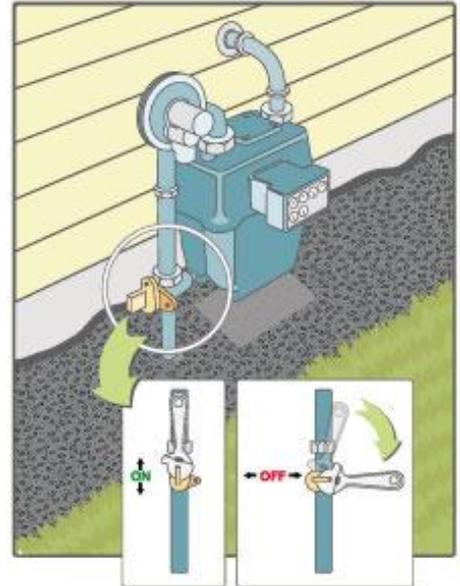
Gas Shutoff

www.pse.com/safety/NaturalGasSafety/Pages/Gas-Shut-Off.aspx

Under normal circumstances, there is no reason to shut off your natural gas service.

In the event that you need to turn off your gas service follow these simple steps:

1. Locate your main gas service shutoff valve. It's usually the first fitting on the natural gas supply pipe coming out of the ground next to the meter.
2. With a wrench, turn the lever in either direction until it is crosswise to the pipe.
3. Once the gas is turned off, leave it off. Do not attempt to turn it on yourself.
4. Call your local utility or gas provider and they will turn it back on, check the system and relight your appliances.



To Temporarily Shut Off Natural Gas to Any Appliance

For non-emergency situations you may want to turn off the gas to individual appliances. The valve is typically located on the fuel line entering the appliance. You can usually turn this valve on and off by hand.

Gas Meter Safety

www.xcelenergy.com/Energy_Portfolio/Natural_Gas/Natural_Gas_Safety/Gas_Meter_Safety

Stay safe during the winter by keeping your gas meter clear and dry.

Keep the vent dry and clear of snow and ice at all times to avoid the potential for dangerous indoor natural gas buildup. In the photo, the arrow points to the meter's gas pressure regulator vent.

The vent can become plugged when ice and snow melt during the day and refreeze at night.

We recommend keeping the entire meter assembly clear of snow and ice as well. Accumulated snow can prevent the meter from operating properly by stopping the flow of natural gas. Gently remove snow or ice from the natural gas meter and any associated piping. Carefully shovel around a meter and move snow away from it. Avoid using a snow blower near a meter. Always keep a clear path to your gas meter to allow quick access in an emergency. A snow-covered meter, in addition to being potentially dangerous, can also lead to a loss of service and freezing of inside pipes as a result of lost heat. Watch this [video](#) to see how to safely clear snow and ice from natural gas meters.



We strongly recommend that you check your gas meter regularly to ensure it is free of ice and snow, especially if the meter is exposed to melting precipitation. Contact us if you notice ice on your meter or are concerned that the meter's regulator vent may be blocked.

Gas Safety Overview

www.xcelenergy.com/Energy_Portfolio/Natural_Gas/Natural_Gas_Safety

Use natural gas safely by taking precautions

Prevent potentially dangerous natural gas conditions by calling before you dig to avoid digging into or nicking a buried gas line. It also is a wise and effective safety measure to maintain gas appliances properly and hire a qualified contractor to routinely inspect them to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Learn to recognize a natural gas leak

It is important for you to know how to recognize potentially dangerous natural gas leaks, so use your senses:

1. **Smell:** Because natural gas has no odor in its natural state, we add a harmless odorant called mercaptan to it to help you detect a leak. Many people describe the odor of mercaptan similar to rotten eggs or sulfur, but it may smell differently to you. It may also be a strong smell from an unknown source.
2. **Hear:** Depending on its size and pressure, a natural gas leak may produce a noise that ranges from next to nothing to a slight hissing or blowing sound to a loud roar.
3. **See:** A leak also may cause dust, dirt or debris to fly, or create blowing or continuous bubbling movement in water. It also can cause a spot of dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area.

How to respond to a natural gas leak

If you suspect a gas leak, immediately get everyone out of your home or building, move a safe distance away and then call for help. Because an electric spark can ignite an explosion, remember to follow these tips:

- Do not turn on or turn off electrical switches.
- Avoid using electric appliances such as garage door openers or telephones of any type.
- Do not start up or shut down motor vehicles or any other electrical equipment.
- Do not strike a match.
- Avoid open flames or other ignition sources.
- Move to a location a safe distance away from your home or building when the odor is outdoors.
- Call your utility provider or **911** in an emergency.
- Stay away until your utility provider or the emergency responders have told you it is safe to return.

Does your home have corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST)?

Across the nation for more than a decade during building construction, contractors have installed corrugated stainless steel tubing. It is a flexible, stainless steel pipe used to carry natural gas (or propane) and is often routed below, through and alongside joists in basements or in other areas of homes, businesses or industrial buildings. It delivers natural gas inside the building to appliances.

At a minimum, please visit csstsafety.com to learn more. We also encourage you to hire a licensed electrician to ensure that your CSST system is properly bonded and grounded. Doing both will better protect your safety by reducing a person's risk to electric shock and damage to the tubing (pipe) if lightning or other electrical surges occur. A damaged pipe can result in leaking gas, a fire or explosion.

Maintain Your Piping

www.pse.com/safety/NaturalGasSafety/Pages/Maintain-Your-Piping.aspx

Your utility company generally owns the natural gas pipelines up to your meter. From there on, they belong to you. It is your responsibility to maintain them.

For example: If any of your natural gas piping runs underground to serve a hot tub, pool, shop, other building or for a natural gas fueled standby generator — or if your meter is located away from the wall of your building — it needs to be maintained by you.

If your buried piping is not maintained, it may leak or corrode creating an unsafe condition. Be sure to periodically inspect buried pipes and if the piping is metallic, inspect for corrosion. Make sure repairs are done immediately. A corrosion-control company, or a plumbing or heating contractor can help inspect and repair it.

If you plan to excavate near your buried piping, it should be located in advance and the excavation should be done by hand. A service can help locate the piping if you are not sure where it is. To locate utility owned lines from the street to your meter, contact the utility provider before you dig.