

# Pipeline Markers

## Nicor Gas is installing pipeline markers across its service territory

At Nicor Gas, the safety of our people, our pipelines and the public is our number one priority. We are committed to maintaining a safe and reliable natural gas pipeline infrastructure that serves the needs of the more than 650 communities we serve.

To ensure the safety of the public, and to satisfy federal regulations, Nicor Gas is in the process of installing pipeline markers in all required areas. Over the next three years, Nicor Gas will be installing 27,000 markers across its service territory.

## Pipeline markers are part of enhanced damage prevention initiatives in Illinois

When excavators work around buried pipelines, there is a risk that they may damage underground gas lines, resulting in potentially dangerous situations and costly repairs. Pipeline markers, as required by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in 49 CFR § 192.707(a) Buried Pipelines, are intended to act as an additional reminder for excavators working in areas that may not appear to have buried pipelines.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

**Important – Call 811 before you dig!** Pipeline markers indicate only the presence of a pipeline. They cannot be relied upon to determine the exact location of the pipeline. It is the law for all excavators to call **811** and have utility lines marked in advance of any excavation.

## PHMSA

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration or (PHMSA) requires pipeline marker demarcation in 49 CFR § 192.707(a) Buried Pipelines:

“Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a line marker must be placed and maintained as close as practical over each buried main and transmission line:

1. At each crossing of a public road and railroad; and
2. Wherever necessary to identify the location of the transmission line or main to reduce the possibility of damage or interference.”

For more information, please visit [primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/MarkersBrief.htm](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/MarkersBrief.htm)



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## Frequently asked questions

**Q:** Why do I have a pipeline marker(s) installed near my home?

**A:** Nicor Gas installs markers at road crossings, railroads in areas with low population densities, and near homes as required by federal regulations.

**Q:** What federal regulation requires this practice?

**A:** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration or (PHMSA) requires pipeline marker demarcation in 49 CFR § 192.707(a) Buried Pipelines.

**Q:** How can I get the markers near my house removed?

**A:** Nicor Gas takes public safety and code compliance very seriously. Unfortunately, a marker that has been installed cannot be removed.

**Q:** Can the marker be moved to a less conspicuous area?

**A:** In certain situations, Nicor Gas has the ability to move the marker to a less conspicuous area per the request of a municipality. Nicor Gas takes efforts to try and install the markers in the most logical spot that will minimize customer impact, but still provide the necessary demarcation for the safety of the public. Nicor Gas reviews all requests on a case-by-case basis and cannot guarantee that all situations will allow for the markers to be re-located.

**Further questions,  
comments, or concerns?**

Please contact  
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