

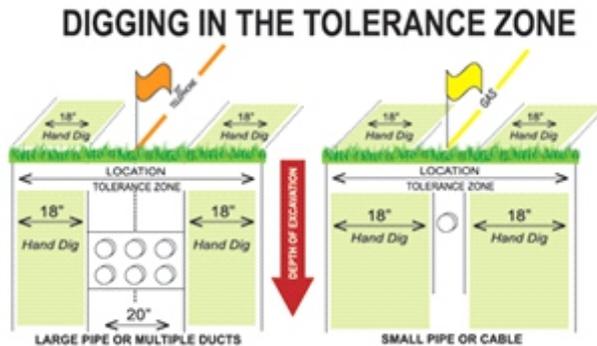
## The Color Coding System

Color coded paint or flags are used to identify the type of underground facilities.

<b>RED</b>	<i>Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables</i>
<b>YELLOW</b>	<i>Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials</i>
<b>ORANGE</b>	<i>Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit</i>
<b>BLUE</b>	<i>Potable Water</i>
<b>GREEN</b>	<i>Sewers and Drain Lines</i>
<b>PURPLE</b>	<i>Non-Potable Water: Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines</i>
<b>PINK</b>	<i>Temporary Survey Markings</i>

## Massachusetts Tolerance Zone

State law requires that the marks be respected by hand digging or using other non-mechanical means, such as vacuum excavation, within the tolerance zone. The tolerance zone is defined as the width of the pipe/duct bank/etc. plus 18 inches on each side.



## If I hit a pipeline...

If you hit, touch, scrape, uncover or damage a gas pipeline or other natural gas equipment within Holyoke or Southamptn, immediately call Holyoke Gas & Electric at (413) 536-9335. Even if it looks minor, a scratch or dent can result in a safety problem in the future. It's important that HG&E evaluate the potential damage, whether it's apparent or not.

## How can I get more information?

We're happy to talk to you about safety. Give us a call or visit our website or Dig Safe's website for everything you need to know.



Call (413) 536-9300 or visit [www.hged.com](http://www.hged.com)



Call 811 or 1-888-DIG-SAFE (888-344-7233) or visit [www.digsafe.com](http://www.digsafe.com)



**Don't dig yourself into trouble.  
Call Dig Safe® before you dig.**

**It's Smart. It's Free. It's the Law.**

This important information is being provided to you by Holyoke Gas & Electric and Dig Safe®.



## About Holyoke Gas & Electric

Holyoke Gas & Electric (HG&E) operates over 170 miles of natural gas distribution mains and 7,000 services lines in Holyoke and Southamptton, Massachusetts. HG&E also operates and maintains a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) peaking system that allows the Department to vaporize LNG and inject the gas into the distribution system in order to meet peak demands.

### What is Dig Safe?

**A safe digging project must always start with a call to Dig Safe.**



Dig Safe is a not-for-profit clearinghouse that dispatches participating utility companies to mark where their underground lines are buried. This is free service, paid for by participating member utilities.

### Why should I call Dig Safe?

Damaging an underground facility is dangerous – for you, and for the people around you. A broken pipe or cable also causes outages, expensive repairs and legal problems. This is why state law requires a call to 811, even for property owners digging on private land.

### When should I call Dig Safe?

Any excavation, even small, shallow jobs are a risk if you don't know where utilities are buried. Call Dig Safe any time you dig, for any type of project.

Landscaping	Irrigation	Utility Install
Fencing	Dog Fence	Underground
Walkway	Underground	Pool
Retaining Wall	Driveway	Patio
Drainage	Basketball Hoop	Etc.

### How far in advance do I call?

Law requires at least 72-hours notice in Massachusetts, excluding weekends and holidays.



You must also “pre-mark” the area where you plan to dig before calling, using white stakes, paint or flags. This helps the locating technician reduce excess markings where you don't need them.

### What information do I need?

This is what we'll ask for when you call.

- Where is the physical address where the work will take place?
- Is this property bounded by any other streets?
- What are the two cross streets that the property is in between?
- What type of work are you doing?
- Where on the property will the work take place?
- Is the area pre-marked?
- Is there any other information that will help the utility companies find where you are working?
- If not yourself, who is doing the digging?

### Who marks the lines?

Utility companies (NOT Dig Safe) mark their own lines. Dig Safe is the communication network that notifies these companies to respond for a mark-out. Some utility members use contract locating companies to mark their lines. Member companies are not responsible to mark privately owned facilities.

### What happens after I call?

The participating utility companies will respond within 72 hours to mark the location of their underground facilities.

Underground utilities are marked out with paint, stakes or flags, using a national color coding system.



Maintaining marks is the responsibility of the contractor. Mark-outs are good for 30 days before DigSafe must be contacted for a remark of the facilities.

Never rely on pre-existing markings in the work zone. Utilities could have mismarked or relocated facilities prior to your excavation. Always call Dig Safe for a fresh mark-out.