

Safety Talking Points

Leading Messages

- 🔥 Safety is and always will be the number one priority for the natural gas industry. Any natural gas incident, no matter the size, is one incident too many.
- 🔥 Natural gas is delivered to more than 175 million Americans through a safe, secure and reliable 2.4-million mile underground pipeline system.

Safety Messages

- 🔥 The industry has demonstrated it can increase the delivery of natural gas while continuously improving pipeline safety. DOT data shows a continual downward trend in pipeline incidents of approximately 10% every three years.
- 🔥 In the last twenty years, the distribution industry has cut the number of serious incidents and leaks in half
- 🔥 Excavation damage has been a leading cause of most pipeline related deaths and injuries
 - A number of initiatives have helped to reduce excavation damage. These include the creation of the Common Ground Alliance – a collaborative group of stakeholders co-founded by AGA with a focus on excavation damage prevention, a nationwide “811– call before you dig” number, and best practices to reduce excavation damage
 - Excavation damages have decreased approximately a 50% in the last 6 years
- 🔥 There are multiple levels of pipeline safety oversight. DOT sets federal safety standards for all pipelines and most states add additional safety standards that go above and beyond DOT’s regulations for intrastate pipelines. DOT partners with state pipeline safety agencies on inspections and enforcement.
- 🔥 The leadership of AGA believes that commitment must start at the top and our actions as leaders clearly demonstrate that we are fully committed to improving safety.
 - Adopted a Safety Culture Statement where all employees, as well as contractors and suppliers providing services to AGA members, are expected to place the highest priority on employee, customer, public and pipeline safety.
 - Adopted “AGA’s Commitment to Enhancing Safety” that identifies actions we are committed to take to improve safety
 - The pipeline industry, led by industry CEOs, has joined the U.S. Secretary of Transportation in his call to action to repair, replace or rehabilitate the highest risk infrastructure.
- 🔥 The natural gas industry prides itself on being a safe, reliable provider of efficient energy—not only its customers but also for the thousands of employees who work each day to deliver natural gas to homes and businesses throughout the U.S. Safety statistics show continued improvements in employee safety over the past five years
- 🔥 AGA believes operators can continue to increase safety through:
 - The exchange of best practices and sharing of lessons learned from incidents and near misses
 - Working closely with emergency responders and the public on natural gas safety, and
 - Collaborative research to help advance innovative technologies and safety
 - Stakeholder collaboration on key initiatives that have the ability to truly improve pipeline safety.