

# IF YOU ARE AN EXCAVATOR OR PLAN TO DIG

People doing excavation, digging or grading are the most frequent cause of pipeline damage and failures. Whether you are planning to build a major development or landscape your property, you should protect your safety and the safety of those around your work site by notifying the Iowa One Call notification system at either 811 or 1-800-292-8989 at least 48 hours prior to excavating.

When notified in advance by the One-Call Center, Emmetsburg Municipal Utilities gas personnel will stake the exact location of the pipeline. This free service allows you to begin your project with the assurance that your safety will not be compromised and our pipeline will not be damaged.

## **What if I dig and disturb a pipeline?**

If you hit or contact a pipeline in any way, inform Emmetsburg Municipal Utilities immediately at 712-852-2550. A gouge, scrape, scratch, dent or crease to a pipe or its coating may cause a future safety problem. It is imperative that Emmetsburg Municipal Utilities inspects and repairs any damage to our pipeline, no matter how minor it may seem.

## **What safety procedures should you take?**

When it comes to the safety of you or anyone else near a pipeline, it is important to know the procedures you should take when someone has damaged a pipeline or when you suspect a gas leak. If you or anyone else accidentally damages or suspects a gas leak on an Emmetsburg Municipal Utilities pipeline, follow the procedures below:

1. Leave the area immediately and warn others to stay away.
2. If you suspect your excavation equipment has struck a pipeline, do not attempt to move the equipment. Shut the equipment off and leave the area.
3. Once away from the pipeline, call Emmetsburg Municipal Utilities at 712-852-2550 as well as your local fire or police department.