



1424 CAMPGROUND ROAD
LANCASTER, OHIO 43130-9503
Telephone (740) 687-6670
After Business Hours (740) 215-8030
Business Hours: Monday – Friday
(7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.)

SAFETY NOTICE **SEWER CLEANING** **PRECAUTIONS**

Call Before You Clear

Prior to using power driven rotary equipment capable of cutting tree roots or clearing hard blockages using water jets in a sewer system please contact Lancaster Municipal Gas (LMG) by calling (740) 687-6670 or 740-215-8030 (after 4:00 p.m. and on weekends). Lancaster Municipal Gas will review records to determine if a conflict might exist between the sewer line and a natural gas line. If a conflict could exist, Lancaster Municipal Gas will send personnel out to investigate further; thus ensuring that the line is not damaged and avoiding a dangerous situation. This service will be performed at no cost.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How could this have happened?

Many natural gas lines are being and have been installed using “trenchless technology”. Trenchless technology including horizontal directional drilling is common today because it requires significantly less disruption to the public as well as the environment than an open-trench method of pipe installation; however, this method could have allowed the installation to be made through an underground sewer line without the knowledge of the person installing the line.

Shouldn't LMG have known the sewer line was there by calling 811 and having it marked?

LMG always calls 811 as required by law before performing excavation activities; however because most vintage sewer lines are made of vitrified clay and contain no tracer wire, they are not able to be located using traditional above-ground locating methods resulting in potential installation through the sewer pipe.

How will I know if a natural gas line was hit while clearing a sewer?

A Chemical called mercaptin is added to natural gas in LMG's distribution system. It is this chemical that gives natural gas its “rotten-egg” smell. If you smell this while clearing the sewer, it is possible that a natural gas line was hit. Bubbles coming up through the standing water inside the pipe or in a toilet or a hissing/roaring noise coming from the inside a sewer pipe are also indicators that a line has been punctured.

What should I do if I believe a gas line has been hit while clearing a sewer?

When a line is hit act quickly to protect life by:

- ✓ Stop what you're doing and have everyone immediately evacuate the premises
- ✓ Do not operate any light switches, or use other sources of ignition
- ✓ Leave the doors open when you leave
- ✓ From a safe distance, call 9-1-1 for immediate assistance.
- ✓ Do not return to the area until the Fire Department or LMG personnel has said it is safe to do so.



Where to Find Additional Information

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lancaster Municipal Gas at 740-687-6670.

An important instructional video can be viewed by visiting the following web site about sewer line cleaning:

<http://vimeo.com/37822753>

Thank You

Lancaster Municipal Gas thanks you for your time taken to read this notice and appreciates your efforts taken in regards to this matter as we all strive to achieve the safest and most reliable service possible for LMG personnel, Emergency Responders and the general public alike.

