

**Doane College**

## **Natural Gas Safety & Awareness**

Doane College owns portions of the underground natural gas piping at the Crete Campus. These pipes distribute natural gas from the local gas distribution company master meter to certain campus buildings. Pipelines are made of steel, covered with protective coating and/or PE plastic pipe. Buried steel pipes are susceptible to corrosion that can ultimately result in leaks. They are tested annually and maintained through the use of diagnostic tools and cathodic protection. Cathodic protection consists of buried sacrificial anodes working together with the protective coating to prevent corrosion. Doane College has contracted with Utility Safety & Design, Inc (USDI) to maintain the underground natural gas piping. Doane staff however will respond to leak complaints. The Doane piping has performed reliably since installation and the pipelines are surveyed annually for leakage. Before any underground construction is allowed, USDI or Doane employees will locate the pipeline to prevent damage. If you have questions or need additional information, please call USDI at 800-770-7282. For problems with your gas equipment or possible leaks, please call Doane staff at 402-826-0060.

### **HOW TO RECOGNIZE A LEAK:**

- **By Smell:** A natural gas leak is indicated by the strong odor of the chemical mercaptan, which is added to natural gas.
- **By Sight:** A dense white cloud over a pipeline, or discolored vegetation surrounding the gas line may be signs of a leak. Also blowing dirt, dust or bubble in standing water.
- **By Sound:** An unusual noise coming from the natural gas line, like a hissing or roaring sound, may be a sign of a leak.

### **WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A NATURAL GAS LEAK:**

#### **DO NOT:**

- Operate any electrical devices or switches.
- Turn on any lights.
- Use any matches.
- Use the telephone.
- Use a flashlight.
- Turn on the television or radio.
- Turn on the gas range or any appliances.
- Use cellular phones or pagers.

#### **DO:**

- Evacuate the premises.
- Leave the door open on your way out.
- Leave the area if you are outside.
- Go to the nearest phone and call Doane Staff to report the leak.
- Stay away until the fire department or gas utility says it is safe to return.

**CALL DOANE STAFF IMMEDIATELY AT:  
402-826-0060 (24 HOURS)**