

Pipeline Facts and Myths



MYTH:

Markers show the exact path of the pipeline.

The TRUTH is...

Pipelines do not always follow a straight line between pipeline markers. There could be bends in a pipeline at any location. A locate from the pipeline company is the only way to map the route of a pipeline.

If your project extends beyond the limits of your first locate, or if the locate expires, you need a new locate to continue working safely.

MYTH:

There are always equal amounts of cover across a pipeline.

The TRUTH is...

Ground cover across a pipeline can be uneven due to erosion, terrain, or other factors.

MYTH:

Pipelines are buried so deeply underground that no project could possibly endanger them.

The TRUTH is...

Typically pipelines are buried between one and three metres below the surface. The depth of cover over a pipeline can vary for many reasons.

MYTH:

Company pipeline markers show the exact location of the pipeline.

The TRUTH is...

Company markers are there to indicate the presence of a pipeline in the area. A locate from the pipeline company is necessary to know the exact location of a pipeline.

MYTH:

The pipeline sits in the middle of the right-of-way.

The TRUTH is...

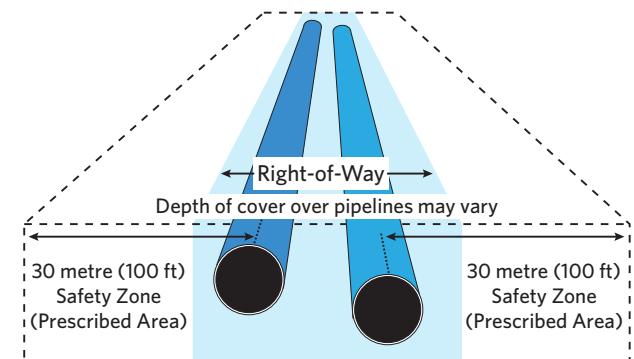
Pipelines can be located anywhere within the allotted right-of-way. A locate from the pipeline company is required to know where the pipeline is situated within the right-of-way.

MYTH:

If there is no sign - there is no pipeline.

The TRUTH is...

Not necessarily - the only way to know for sure is to call / click before you dig!



The prescribed area, also called the safety zone, is the strip of land measured 30 metres (100 foot) perpendicularly on each side of the centreline of the pipe. Ground disturbance activities within the prescribed area require written consent from the pipeline company. Such written consent is also required for the construction of a facility or the use of vehicles or mobile equipment on the right-of-way.



A better understanding about pipelines and where they are buried can go a long way to ensuring your safety when living and working around them. Here are some common misconceptions about pipelines and the facts that make **calling / clicking before you dig** an important step.

That's why when you are planning a project that involves digging, get the facts and **CALL / CLICK FOR A LOCATE** to protect the safety of your family, your community and the environment!



National Web Portal

www.clickbeforeyoudig.com

Contact the NEB

If you need assistance with any construction of a facility near a federally-regulated pipeline or engage in an activity that would cause a ground disturbance within the prescribed area, please call 1-800-899-1265 and ask to speak to an Inspection Officer about Damage Prevention, or email us at DPInfo@neb-one.gc.ca.

For more information

Visit our website at www.neb-one.gc.ca. To link to damage prevention information, scroll to the left to Safety & Environment and click on Damage Prevention.

The following publications related to damage prevention and other NEB publications are available on our website at www.neb-one.gc.ca or from the Library and Publication Services:

- National Energy Board Act;
- National Energy Board Pipeline Damage Prevention Regulations – Authorizations;
- National Energy Board Pipeline Damage Prevention Regulations – Obligations of Pipeline Companies;
- Pipeline Damage Prevention – Ground Disturbance, Construction and Vehicle Crossings; and
- Living and Working Near Pipelines.

Library and Publication Services

National Energy Board
Suite 210, 517 Tenth Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2R 0A8
Phone: 403-299-3561
Email: publications@neb-one.gc.ca

Paper: NE23-168/2017E
978-0-660-08119-9

PDF: NE23-168/2017E-PDF
978-0-660-08118-2

National Energy
Board



Office national
de l'énergie

DAMAGE PREVENTION

Pipeline Facts And Myths

Click or Call before you Dig



Canada