

Spring 2018

# ENERGY TALK

**SANDPIPER**  
ENERGY

TOP  
WORK  
PLACES

The Newsletter Exclusively for Sandpiper Energy Customers [sandpiper-energy.com](http://sandpiper-energy.com)

CONSERVATION

COMMUNITY

ENVIRONMENT

SAFETY

**OUR SERVICE TERRITORY HAS EXPERIENCED AN UNSEASONABLY COLD AND SNOWY WINTER.** The first 15 days of the year were 27 percent colder than an average start to January.



With cold and wet weather, it is difficult to think about conservation. However, to proactively manage your utility bills, it is the first step. The colder the air is outside, the more energy it takes to heat a building.

You can reduce your consumption in the future by lowering the temperature that your thermostat is set at – every degree lower in the heating season may result in a 2 percent savings on your energy bill. During the coldest wintry days, that may mean turning down your thermostat, instead of turning it up.

Conservation begins at home and savings can too. If you need assistance with your energy bill please go to [www.chesapeakesharing.com](http://www.chesapeakesharing.com) for more information about Chesapeake Utilities Sharing program.

## An Emissions Solution Right in Your Own Home.

Did you know that you can reduce your carbon footprint by choosing natural gas to fuel your home? Greater direct use of natural gas for heating and cooling, water heating, cooking and clothes drying can cut carbon emissions nearly in half.



That is because natural gas appliances and the network that delivers the energy to your home is super efficient. When you factor in energy use and emissions along the full fuel cycle, households with natural gas versus all electric appliances produce 37 percent lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Unused electricity, in the form of electric system losses account for half of the energy consumed in the U.S. residential sector. If households use natural gas directly, instead of converting natural gas to electricity first, it is not only more efficient but a win for the environment. **Consider making a choice for the better, choose natural gas.**

## We Provide All Kinds of Warmth While Giving to the Community.

Chesapeake Utilities and Sandpiper Energy take pride in community participation. We contribute hundreds of volunteer hours to charities throughout the Delmarva Peninsula.



In addition to volunteering, we have employee sponsored event drives. One of our events was a sock drive for homeless shelters in Dover, Delaware and Salisbury, Maryland. Employees donated new, packaged socks which were delivered to shelters. Socks are needed year-round for our neighbors in need. **Consider picking up an extra pair and delivering it to your nearest shelter. It is just one way to help the community.**

## PLAN YOUR WORK AND WORK YOUR PLAN

*Don't Forget to Include Miss Utility in Your Plan*

Spring approaches and outdoor projects begin to surface as we emerge from winter. It has been cold this winter and spring fever will inevitably affect everyone once the weather breaks. With spring fever, the rush to start all of those projects, large and small will begin.

For your safety, Chesapeake Utilities is asking you to plan your work. That includes considering where you may be digging in your yard and contacting 811 or Miss Utility, before you dig.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

*(Continued on back)*

**PLAN YOUR WORK** *(Continued from front)*

811 is the free and convenient number to contact for locating underground utilities. Forty-eight hours before starting a project that involves digging, call **811** or visit **Miss Utility on the web at [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com)**, to have underground utilities marked.

It is dangerous to dig near underground utility lines. If a utility line is struck or damaged, injuries may occur and fines and repair fees may be imposed for damages that are caused by not calling first.

**For your safety, don't forget to include Miss Utility in your springtime project plans.**

**What Is An EFV?**

An Excess Flow Valve, or EFV, is a mechanical safety device installed inside a gas service line between the gas main and the gas meter. In accordance with federal regulations, you may request that Chesapeake Utilities install an EFV on your existing gas service line.

Although an EFV is not required for the normal, safe operation of your gas service line, an EFV could help mitigate the consequences of a service line break by restricting or stopping the gas flow. The cost of installing the EFV will be at the expense of the customer. Most residential and small commercial customers will be eligible to have an EFV installed.

For more information please call us at **800.427.0015** or visit our website at **[sandpiper-energy.com/safety/efv](http://sandpiper-energy.com/safety/efv)**.

**Natural Gas and Propane  
Can You Say Mercaptan?**

**YES I CAN!** Mercaptan is a harmless odorant that is added to gas to make that "rotten egg" smell we all know so well. Ewww... Mercaptan is added to natural gas and propane for a very good reason - to detect a gas leak! When you detect this "rotten egg" smell near your appliances, such as your fireplace, ovens, clothes dryers and other appliances:

**DO THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY:**

- Leave your home or building in the event that there is a "gas leak"
- Call for emergency help (800.427.0015 or 911) from your cell phone or a neighboring location

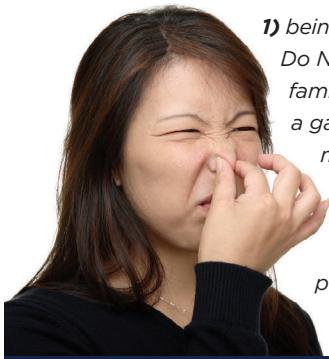
**REMEMBER:**

- **DO NOT** Re-enter your home or building until you are advised to do so by an emergency professional
- **DO NOT** Use the telephone or light switches
- **DO NOT** Light a match or anything that would create a spark or flame

Sandpiper Energy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities, is proud to provide families in Worcester County, Maryland with an energy source that is safe and reliable. Our company recently earned three national safety awards honoring our commitment to the safety of our customers, communities and employees.

**Keeping Your Friends  
and Family Safe From  
A Gas Leak Begins With:**

- 1) being familiar with the Do's and Do Not's listed above, 2) talking with friends and family members about what to do in the event of a gas leak, and 3) asking each friend and family member to **scratch and sniff the dot and become familiar with the smell of a gas leak.** If you cannot smell the "rotten egg" smell, please install a gas detector which can be purchased at your local hardware store.

**Did You Know?**

We've converted nearly 5,000 customers in Worcester County to natural gas!

**IF YOU SMELL GAS AND  
SUSPECT YOU HAVE A GAS  
LEAK, CALL US IMMEDIATELY!**

Sandpiper provides 24-hour emergency service every day of the year.

**Important Numbers to Know**

Emergencies: **800.427.0015**

If you have a question, or need service: **800.427.0015**

Safety & Training: **302.736.7825**

Miss Utility: **811**

Maryland Public Service Commission Consumer Assistance Division: **800.492.0474**

For more information on gas safety, visit: **[www.safegasmaryland.org](http://www.safegasmaryland.org)**

**Pursuant to the Department of  
Transportation, Sandpiper Energy  
must inform each customer of  
the following information:**

1. All gas piping beyond the outlet side of the gas meter is considered customer owned piping. Sandpiper Energy does NOT perform maintenance, or line marking in advance of construction, on or near customer owned piping because it is considered the customer's responsibility.
2. If the customer's buried piping is not maintained, it may be subject to the potential hazards of corrosion and leakage.
3. Buried gas piping should be:
  - (A) Periodically inspected for leaks;
  - (B) Periodically inspected for corrosion if the piping is metallic; and
  - (C) Repaired if any unsafe condition is discovered.
4. When excavating near buried gas piping, call 811 to have the piping located in advance, and have the excavation done by hand.
5. Plumbers and heating contractors can assist in locating, inspecting, and repairing the customer's buried piping.