

Safety Tips

Call before you dig!



Do it right. Stay safe.

Thinking about landscaping? Building a fence?

Thousands of times each year in Canada, gas lines are damaged by individuals or companies. In BC alone, there were 1,509 reported line hits in 2008 which decreased to 1,403 in 2009. The BCSA would like to see that number continue to fall, there is one simple solution...

To avoid gas line incidents, call before you dig!

BC One Call at 1.800.474.6886 or *6886 on your cell, is a free service.

Digging safety in your yard:

One local landscaper was building a set of stairs on a property when they began driving a reinforcement rod into the soil to stabilize the timbers. The rod punctured a gas line almost two metres from the house and natural gas began seeping through the ground, filling the basement and adjacent storage area. The gas was ignited, likely by the pilot light, but disaster was averted when the contractors grabbed a fire extinguisher and nearby garden hose to prevent the fire from spreading. Three volunteer firefighters and a pumper truck were able to put out the house fire and minimize the damage, as gas still burned outside the home. The flames were fully extinguished after utility officials arrived to turn off the natural gas.

The homeowners in this case were lucky; the damage was limited to the basement storage areas, furnaces and hot water tank. Had a larger volume of gas escaped into a confined area like that, and had a source of ignition been present, there could have been an explosion.

Avoid an incident by contacting:

BC One Call

1.800.474.6886 or *6886 on your cell (service is provided at no cost to users)

www.bconecall.bc.ca

Other resources:

BC Safety Authority

1.866.566.7233

www.safetyauthority.ca

BC Common Ground Alliance

www.commongroundbc.ca/?page_id=241



British Columbia Safety Authority

Toll-free 1.866.566.7233 www.safetyauthority.ca