




TRANSPORTING



An unseen network of underground pipeline transports natural gas safely and securely from the wellhead to consumers.

Gathering pipelines transport natural gas from the successfully completed well to a compressor station, where it is pressurized to enter the interstate pipeline system for transportation and sale.

Today's natural gas gathering pipelines are constructed of epoxy-coated, high-grade steel. With the use of X-ray-tested welds and anti-corrosive measures, these natural gas highways are built to last. Regular maintenance includes the use of cleaning and inspection devices which sweep through the pipeline, gathering residual moisture and sediment and moving them to a location where they can be removed.

Gathering lines feature extensive control measures including monitoring for changes in pressure, regular pipeline inspections and a heavy pipe design which far outweighs the pipes found in distribution lines that deliver natural gas to the consumer.

Chesapeake's gathering pipelines are constructed after careful consideration of human, environmental and economic factors that will determine the optimal route of the pipeline.

After securing right-of-way from property owners, the pipeline may be constructed by either trenching or boring. The trenching method involves digging a trench into which the pipe is laid. Once installed and buried out of sight, soil, vegetation and landscaping are restored as needed. With the bore method, a hole is bored at one end and the pipe is pulled into place from the opposite end, creating little, if any, surface impact between the two locations.



A guided boring machine creates an underground path, leaving the surface undisturbed.

Gathering pipelines run to compressor stations, where the natural gas is treated to conform to prescribed government standards. Any remaining water vapor is removed using separator vessels and a dehydration unit. Then, the processed natural gas is brought to the correct level of pressure for safe and efficient transport through the pipeline network.

Chesapeake's compressor stations are safe and securely fenced, making them inaccessible to animals and people. Industrial mufflers, sound barriers and landscape screening are also utilized in urban and environmentally sensitive areas to reduce noise, meet municipal sound-quality standards and blend in with surrounding structures and buildings.

To ensure maximum safety, natural gas pipelines and compressor stations are highly regulated at the federal and state levels. Pipelines and all related facilities (e.g., compressor stations or valve sites) are regulated by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The U.S. Department of Transportation also regulates gathering pipelines in populated and environmentally sensitive areas.

To view the entire informational series, visit AskChesapeake.com/PA

America's Champion of Natural Gas – Chesapeake is committed to being a good neighbor and responsible corporate citizen. Our goal is to cause the least disruption possible while we drill for, produce and deliver clean-burning natural gas to power our nation and fuel the Pennsylvania economy.

