



## *Media Release*

For Immediate Release

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### **Safety warning for landscaping contractors and new homeowners**

SaskEnergy is asking landscaping contractors and homeowners to put safety first when planning projects in new subdivisions this fall. The majority of natural gas pipeline contacts in Saskatchewan today are happening in the backyards of homes or condominiums, particularly in new urban subdivisions.

SaskEnergy is asking for the help of landscaping businesses and new property owners to reverse this trend, as unplanned contact with a natural gas pipeline puts workers, families and communities at risk.

SaskEnergy's damage reports indicate that most pipeline contacts in the province are occurring in new residential developments in cities during the following activities:

- Landscaping
- Fence Post installation
- Deck construction
- Driveway paving

This fall, know what's below before planning a project for a new home and yard. SaskEnergy reminds you to call for line locates and make sure to have a safe work plan for operating backhoes, trenchers and post-hole augers around marked underground lines. Under SaskEnergy's regulations, excavation equipment cannot be operated within one metre of a marked natural gas line. Work closer than one metre must be done with hand-operated tools, only after safely exposing or "daylighting" the line so it is visible to those working near it.

Contact Sask 1<sup>st</sup> Call at [www.sask1stcall.com](http://www.sask1stcall.com) or at 1-866-828-4888 to arrange for free locates of underground utility infrastructure.

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