Knowing Pipeline Location

Most pipelines are underground, where they are more protected from the elements and have minimal interference with surface uses. Even so, a pipeline right-of-way is clearly identified by pipeline markers along pipeline routes that identify the approximate—NOT EXACT—location of the pipeline. Every pipeline marker contains information identifying the company that operates the pipeline, the product transported, and a phone number that should be called in the event of an emergency.

Markers do not indicate pipeline burial depth, which will vary. Markers are typically seen where a pipeline intersects a street, highway or railway. For any person to willfully deface, damage, remove, or destroy any pipeline marker is a federal crime.

Pipeline Markers

This marker is the most common. It contains operator information, type of product, and an emergency contact number. Size, shape and color may vary.

Casing Vent Markers

This marker indicates that a pipeline (protected by a steel outer casing) passes beneath a nearby roadway, rail line or other crossing.

Aerial Markers

These skyward facing markers are used by patrol planes that monitor pipeline routes.