

Damaging a natural gas line in a sewer service line creates a serious safety issue and can result in a gas leak, fire or explosion.



**Protect yourself and others. CALL BEFORE YOU CLEAR a blocked sewer service line beyond the outside wall of a building.**

If you suspect a natural gas leak, evacuate the building immediately and then call 911 and Vermont Gas Systems from a safe distance. The Vermont Gas emergency number is 1-800-639-8081

Signs that a gas line has been damaged during the clearing of a sewer service line could include bubbling water, a hissing sound, natural gas (rotten egg) odor or blowing dirt.



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

**Before attempting to clear a blocked sewer service line beyond the outside wall of a building, call Dig Safe at 811.**

- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There is no charge for this service



## **Blocked sewer service line?**

**Avoid the risks.**

CALL BEFORE YOU CLEAR a blocked service line beyond the outside of a building.

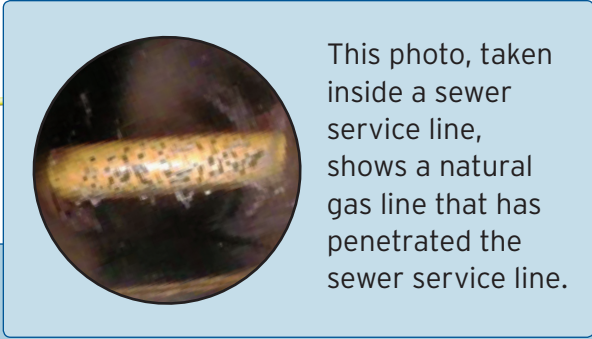
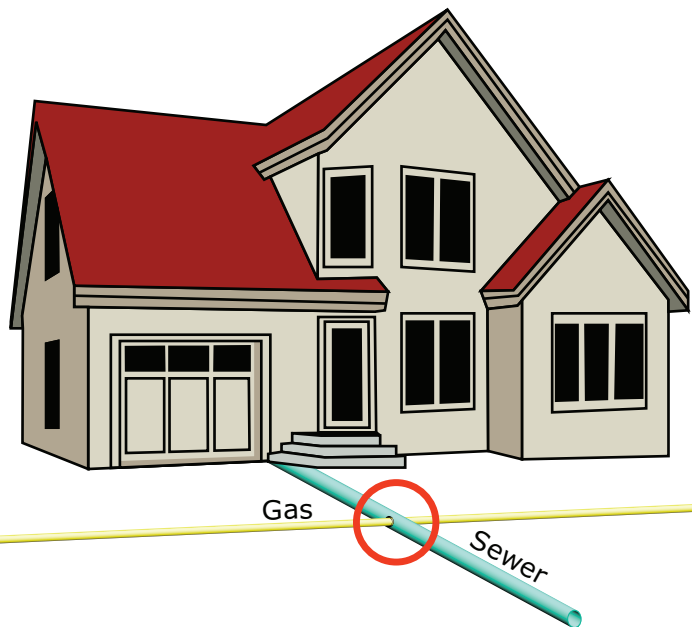
**Contact Dig Safe at 811.**



**Important  
SAFETY  
Message**



# Vermont Gas Systems wants to make you aware of a potential safety issue that could arise if you attempt to clear a blocked sewer service line beyond the outside wall of a building.



This photo, taken inside a sewer service line, shows a natural gas line that has penetrated the sewer service line.

## Take the necessary precautions to protect yourself and others.

If unable to visually verify that a cross-bore blockage does not exist, follow these precautionary measures before you attempt to clear a sewer blockage beyond the outside of a building wall.

Call Dig Safe at 811 and request an emergency locate to get utility lines in the area marked. If the utility markings cross the known path of a sewer line, you may have a cross-bore blockage.

If you suspect or discover that the blockage is caused by a cross-bore:

- DO NOT attempt to clear the blockage with mechanical equipment.
- Get help from the involved utility operator. Vermont Gas can be reached at (800) 639-8081. If the blockage is the result of a cross-bored gas line, a Vermont Gas technician will provide assistance to help correct the problem
- Hand dig in the area where the blockage and/or cross-bore may exist.

- A blocked sewer line may be the result of a utility line (gas, electric, etc.) having been accidentally “cross-bored” through a sewer line.
- Attempting to clear the blockage can result in a serious accident involving loss of life, injury and significant property damage.
- If the blockage involves a natural gas line and the gas line is damaged, natural gas can leak into the sewer service

- line, sewer mains, and nearby buildings, posing an immediate safety risk
- The potential safety risk exists for all building types including residential, commercial, institutional and industrial.
- Buildings without natural gas service lines may also be affected

**REMEMBER:**  
Call Dig Safe at 811



802-863-4511  
vgsvt.com  
800-639-8081