



Chattanooga Gas[®]

An AGL Resources Company

THE PRP CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Chattanooga Gas is replacing more than 110 miles of aging pipeline with newer more technologically advanced plastic and steel pipes. This replacement work will ensure the ongoing safety and reliability of Chattanooga Gas' natural gas pipeline system. Chattanooga Gas was one of the first pipeline companies in the country to begin a comprehensive pipeline replacement program.

REPLACEMENT PROJECTS ARE COMPLETED IN A PHASED PROCESS.



Markings help identify the locations of existing utilities in a project area.



Open cut construction (left) and directional drill installation (right) are standard methods of completing a replacement project.



Traffic control measures are used when pipeline replacement work requires a temporary lane closure for worker safety.

Step 1: Locate Existing Utilities

Before construction can begin, existing utilities, such as water, sewer, phone, etc. must be located. This helps to ensure that these services are not accidentally damaged by Chattanooga Gas contractors when the replacement work gets underway. Spray painted markings on streets, sidewalks, and along public right-of-way show where these underground utilities are. While the paint used is not permanent and eventually washes away, it is important that the markings remain visible for the duration of the replacement work to protect property owners from losing any services.

Step 2: Replace the Gas Main

Next the contractor replaces the old bare steel pipe with state-of-the-art plastic pipe or coated steel pipe either through "open cut" construction or directional drilling. The open cut involves excavating a narrow trench in the road or along the right-of-way. This method is typically used when

directional drilling is not feasible. Directional drilling helps to reduce construction impacts because it uses two smaller excavated areas where crews can "push" the pipe through one hole and "pull" it out the other. Gas is put back into the line once the replacement has been made.

Step 3: Connect the New Line to Homes and Businesses

Once the main gas pipeline is installed, the individual service lines to homes and businesses need to be connected or "tied over" to the new distribution line. Depending on the amount of gas main replaced, the actual service connection work could happen several weeks or even months after the initial work in an area. This may cause concerns for some property owners when they see crews leave an area only to return weeks or possibly months later, but it is important to note that the new line must have gas going through it before individual service connections can be made.

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Connecting the service line to the main line usually happens in the right-of-way but may require some work on private property.

Service line work is typically performed in the public right-of-way in sidewalks or behind the curb. In some instances, the work may extend onto private property to make the connection. Additionally some property owners may need to have their entire

service line replaced or “renewed” from the gas meter to the new line to get connected. Service line renewals are completed by Chattanooga Gas contractors at no cost to the customer. During any service line work, gas must be briefly shut off to the home or business.

Because the replacement process is completed in phases, Chattanooga Gas contractors use temporary restoration materials such as hay, temporary gravel road patches, or temporary asphalt or gravel patches on sidewalks until permanent restoration can be completed at the end of the project.

Step 4: Restore Gas Service to Homes and Business

On most replacement projects, it is necessary to turn off gas service for a short period of time as the new service line is connected to the new main line. Residences and businesses receive a door hanger one to two days prior to the service interruption with contact information and expected scheduling



All Chattanooga Gas contractors and employees should present Chattanooga Gas identification prior to entering the premises.

information on when the service interruption will happen. After the tie-over or renewal is made, a Chattanooga Gas contractor or field service representative will schedule a time to enter the residence or business to re-light all natural gas appliances. This step is coordinated with the property owner so that someone can be onsite. Customers should not attempt to re-light their appliances.

Step 5: Restore Construction Area

Chattanooga Gas contractors are responsible for final restoration at the end of the project. Using temporary restoration measures while the work is in progress stabilizes the area of construction, whether a yard, sidewalk, or street, while allowing the project to move forward in an efficient manner. The amount of time between the initial excavation and final restoration can be several weeks or even months based on a number of variables, including weather, type of pipe material used, project area terrain, and more. Chattanooga Gas’ goal is to restore an area as closely as possible to its original condition once the project is complete while adhering to all local paving and erosion control ordinances.



Temporary restoration (left) includes asphalt or gravel patches, hay for erosion control, and other short-term measures. Final restoration (right) may include permanent asphalt patches or repaving, seed or sod in yards, and sidewalk restoration.

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Thank you for your patience and cooperation as Chattanooga Gas works to improve the safety and reliability of the natural gas system in your area.

Questions about PRP projects in your area? Please visit www.chattanoogagas.com or contact Chattanooga Gas at 423-490-4320 or [@aglresources.com](https://twitter.com/aglresources)