

Columbia Gas of Virginia to invest approximately \$755,000 to upgrade underground natural gas pipeline facilities in Smithfield.

Columbia Gas of Virginia will invest approximately \$755,000 to upgrade our underground natural gas pipelines in Smithfield. The project will start in early January **on Main Street**. This project will take approximately ten weeks to complete and will result in a modern natural gas infrastructure designed to meet the needs of Smithfield residents and businesses for years to come.

The work will occur on the following streets:

- **Main Street (100 – 300 blocks)**

We are **committed to customer and employee safety** while we install our new facilities. Columbia Gas representatives can be identified by their marked vehicles and uniforms. In addition, all company employees and our contractors will be happy to present their photo identification. We will coordinate safe access with all property and business owners during this important construction project.

This project will require us to transfer existing customer service lines to our new natural gas pipeline. You will receive information during the construction project regarding any work specific to your property that may need to be completed.

This natural gas underground pipeline construction project involves a **simple, seven step process**:

Step 1: Columbia Gas of Virginia will **call 811** to have all underground utilities located and marked with temporary paint before we start to dig.

Step 2: **Each property owner is responsible** for locating and marking any **private** underground facilities such as irrigation systems, invisible dog fences and drain fields.

Step 3: Each property owner will be notified prior to construction beginning in front of their property.

Step 4: A new natural gas main line will be installed, typically in the road right-of-way.

Step 5: If necessary, individual service lines and meters will be replaced. *Please note: Natural gas service will be temporarily interrupted while our crews complete this work.*

Step 6: Columbia Gas of Virginia will coordinate the transfer of natural gas service to the newly-installed facilities. *Please note: We will need to access your property to complete a safety check and re-light your natural gas appliances.*

Step 7: Upon completion of the construction project, we will restore the property to its original condition. This can include the yard, sidewalk or other pavement.

The illustration on the opposite page shows a typical natural gas underground pipeline system in a community. The main line carries natural gas in pipes under the street or alley. A connection at each house or business allows natural gas to flow into the service line and building.



As the project progresses in your neighborhood, the following steps may occur:

- **REPLACE the main natural gas pipeline.** This pipe usually runs underneath your street or alley.
- **REPLACE the service line.** This pipe runs from the main natural gas pipeline to the meter that serves your home or business.
- **RELOCATE any indoor natural gas meters** to the outside of the home or business and **move meters from behind homes** to the front or side of the property.
- **RESTORE the property** to its original condition.

Additional Information:

Single blocks of Main Street will be closed during the installation, in an effort to limit traffic disturbance. Phase 1 of the project will start in the 300 block, starting near Cokes Lane and ending on the west side of Institute Street. Phase 2 of the project will start from the west side of Institute Street and end on the West side of South Mason Street. Phase 3 of the project will start on the west side of South Mason Street and terminate just west of the South Church Street and Main Street intersection.

We realize a project of this size will cause some inconveniences to you and we apologize for this disruption.

We appreciate your patience and understanding. For more information, please visit

www.ColumbiaGasVa.com/infrastructure and click on "Smithfield" in the left side navigation panel. Also, look for project updates on Facebook at [ColumbiaGasVa](https://www.facebook.com/ColumbiaGasVa) or on Twitter [@ColumbiaGasVa](https://twitter.com/ColumbiaGasVa).

Also, updates will be posted to www.smithfield2020.org and www.facebook.com/smithfield2020 throughout the project.

For additional information, please contact Emmett Gwynn, Columbia Gas construction leader, at (757) 646-5927 or Karl Brack, director of communications and community relations, at (804) 768-6410.