



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 6, 2025

March 6th Update on Reports of Natural Gas Odors in Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County

The Town of Warrenton, Fauquier County, and Columbia Gas of Virginia are working together to address the natural gas odor reports in the Town and County.

We will continue to investigate what caused the reports of an odor of natural gas in Warrenton and Fauquier County on Wednesday. In the meantime, Columbia Gas has determined that while operating pressures were normal and there were no damaged lines in the area, higher-than-typical odorant levels were detected in the system. Natural gas is colorless and odorless, so gas companies add the odorant mercaptan to the gas to help in the identification of leaks.

Flaring operating took place in three areas around the Town last night and into early this morning until 5 AM. Columbia Gas of Virginia may again carry out this process at several locations today in the Warrenton area and Fauquier County. This is a routine procedure in which natural gas is burned off the system in order to ensure the safety of our infrastructure in a variety of scenarios, including an over odorization situation.

Columbia Gas crews are in the area and will work around the clock, going door-to-door to restore service, perform safety checks, and relight natural gas appliances for all affected customers.

For customers not home during the service restoration process, door hangers will be left informing you of the outage and requesting they call Columbia Gas at 1-800-543-8911 for a service technician to be dispatched to restore service to their homes or businesses.

If you do detect an odor of natural gas, we strongly encourage you to stop what you are doing, leave the area immediately, call 911 and Columbia Gas emergency line at 800-544-5606. More information about natural gas safety and reporting natural gas leaks can be found here: [Natural Gas Safety - Columbia Gas of Virginia](#)

We ask the community to not call 911 unless you smell gas.

Residents are encouraged to call the Emergency Management Hotline, (540) 215-0054, for any non-emergency needs where they can leave a message by pressing Option #4 and the Town will work on responding.

Columbia Gas will continue to be as transparent as possible as we monitor the situation, and will continue to work to restore service to our customers as soon as possible.

For Columbia Gas of Virginia press inquiries, contact Stephanie Benson at (804) 653-9986 or sbenson@nisource.com.

For Town press inquiries, contact Lyndie Paul at (540) 351-4173 or lpaul@warrentonva.gov.