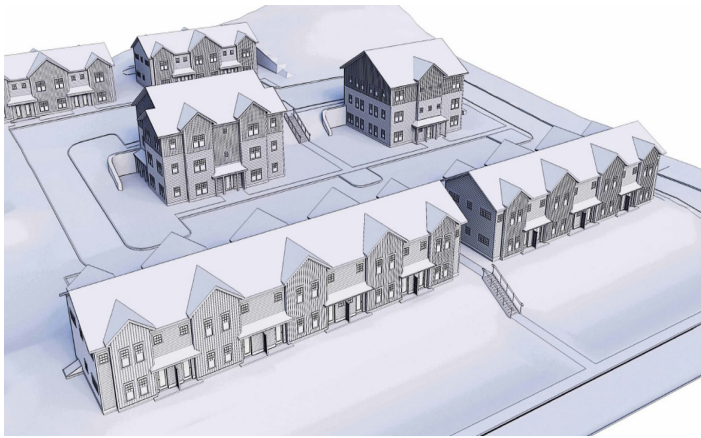


## Vermont Gas and Partners Announce Plans to Build Geothermal Energy System



Vermont Gas, the Champlain Housing Trust (CHT), and Evernorth are partnering to bring high efficiency, renewable geothermal energy to the occupants of a new permanently affordable housing development slated for construction in Hinesburg.

Riggs Meadow is a forthcoming residential development in downtown Hinesburg that includes 44 townhomes and apartments for low- and moderate-income renters and owners. Geothermal systems will be installed to heat and cool four multi-family buildings constituting 36 of the residences on site. Riggs Meadow is the first phase of a planned development on 46 acres donated to CHT by Jan Blomstrann which will include another 30-plus homes, a childcare center, and conserved land with public access to trails.

The project marks a milestone for Vermont Gas and co-developers CHT and Evernorth, who have

partnered to explore which type of renewable heating and cooling is best suited to provide reliable and affordable energy year-round.

“Geothermal is one of the best solutions we have to make cost-effective, renewable heating and cooling options accessible to more Vermonters,” said Neale Lunderville, President & CEO of Vermont Gas. “VGS is excited to leverage our six decades of experience to support new, innovative services that support community needs. Geothermal is a strong fit for Vermont, and once installed, these systems’ low operating costs make them an attractive option for renters, homeowners, and businesses.”

Geothermal systems are the most efficient option available to Vermonters to heat and cool buildings. They operate by connecting to an underground loop. Thermal energy captured by the loop is converted to a comfortable indoor temperature using in-home ground source heat pumps (GSHP). At Riggs Meadow, the apartments will utilize dedicated single-loop configurations for each building. The geothermal systems will allow residents to access clean, all-electric, heating and cooling.

The new neighborhood will add sorely needed affordable options to Chittenden County’s housing stock, and through the partnership with Vermont Gas will provide additional financial stability for residents’ monthly budgets.

Construction is anticipated to commence in 2026 with residents occupying the homes in 2027. Once in operation, the partners will monitor the systems’ performance and user satisfaction.

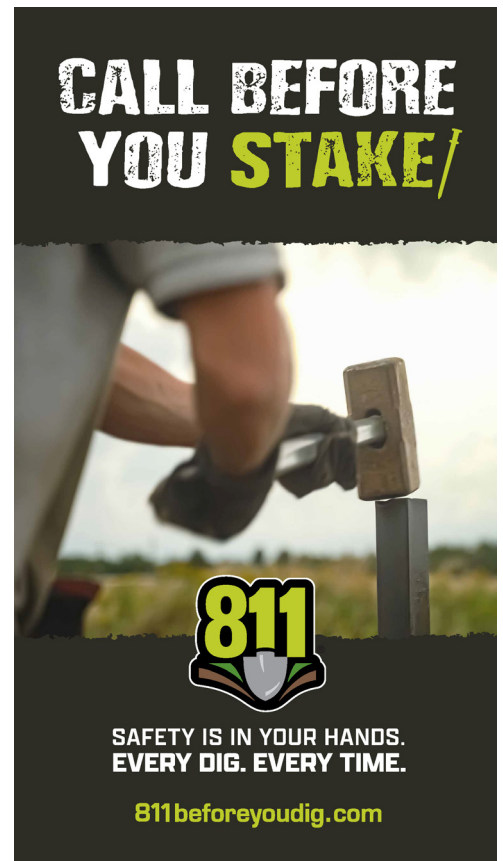


# Call Before You Poke, Stake, or Dig


It isn't just heavy machinery that poses a risk to underground utilities. Seemingly minor items like industrial tent stakes, electric grounding rods, property pins, and grade stakes can easily strike and damage buried infrastructure.

Before any ground disturbance occurs, no matter how minor the project seems, it is critical to contact Dig Safe. The process is simple and begins at least 72 hours prior to digging by calling 811 or visiting [www.digsafe.com](http://www.digsafe.com) to make a request. Dig Safe will then notify local utilities so they can mark buried infrastructure, ensuring all utility locations are clearly visible on the surface before you put a shovel in the ground. Please keep in mind that utilities have 72 hours to complete this marking work.

If you ever hit a natural gas line, immediately call 911, your local fire department, and VGS at 802-863-4511. Even if the line doesn't appear to be leaking, we'll inspect the area and make any necessary repairs.



**CALL BEFORE  
YOU STAKE/**

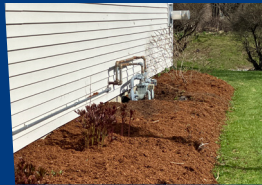


**SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.  
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.**

[811beforeyoudig.com](http://811beforeyoudig.com)

## Don't mulch your meter

As spring landscaping gets underway, we want to share an important safety reminder regarding your natural gas meter. While fresh mulch, vibrant bushes, and decorative plantings add a polished look to your garden, please ensure they remain clear of all equipment. Dense shrubs and piled mulch can trap moisture, leading to corrosion and damage to the meter. Maintaining a clear three-foot path ensures technicians have immediate access during an emergency. Please keep your landscaping trimmed and meter unobstructed to help us keep your home and neighborhood safe.



## Contact VGS before starting your outdoor projects

If you are planning home projects or remodeling your home's exterior, call VGS at 802-863-4511 before you start. We provide free consultations to make sure your project complies with gas safety regulations. Improvements to check with us on include building additions, adding mini-splits, moving windows or doors, and widening your driveway. Taking this quick step ensures your upgrades don't interfere with underground utility lines or meter clearance requirements. By coordinating with VGS early, you can keep your project on schedule and ensure your home remains safe and up to code.

QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH

(802) 863-4511

[WWW.VGSVT.COM](http://WWW.VGSVT.COM)

[CUSTOMERSERVICE@VERMONTGAS.COM](mailto:CUSTOMERSERVICE@VERMONTGAS.COM)