



APRIL 2026

Natural Gas News



Zia Natural Gas Company would like to send a warm and happy Easter Greeting to you and your family! We hope you have a great, safe holiday.

Zia offices will be open normal business hours.

Scholarship Deadline – April 15, 2026

Scholarship criteria and application can be found on our website at zngc.com under the News & Links section. Available to graduating seniors. Please submit application by mail or in person at your local Zia office. Deadline to apply is 4/15/26.



National Safe Digging Month

Now that spring is here, you may be planning your landscaping and gardening projects. April is National Safe Digging Month and Zia Natural Gas would like to remind you to always call 8-1-1 at least two days before you dig.

You must call 8-1-1 before digging for projects as small as planting trees/shrubs or installing a new mailbox, to larger projects such as installing a septic tank, swimming pool, or sprinkler system. The Common Ground Alliance (CGA)—an association that works to prevent damage to underground utility infrastructure—found that there were more than 130,000 reported damages in 2023 to buried utility infrastructure. Hitting a buried line can be a serious safety hazard and expensive to fix.

By making a simple call, you can help prevent injuries, property damage, and inconvenient utility outages. Remember to always call 8-1-1 before you dig this month, and all year long.

*Plans for home improvement?
Planting a tree?
Installing a fence or a deck?*

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

COLOR CODE for Marking Underground Utility Lines

WHITE:	Proposed Excavation
PINK:	Temporary Survey Markings
RED:	Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit & Lighting Cables
YELLOW:	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials
ORANGE:	Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cable or Conduit
BLUE:	Potable Water
PURPLE:	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
GREEN:	Sewer and Drain Lines

What happens when you call 8-1-1?

- When you call 811 at least two days before digging, utility companies will come out free of charge to mark the location of underground electric, telephone, cable, water, sewer, and gas lines.
- Zia Natural Gas Company marks its gas lines in yellow. A marking indicates the presence of a line but not its pressure or how deep it is buried.
- The markings are meant to guide your digging so that you avoid hitting underground lines. Remember to stay at least 2ft away from the utility line marking.

There are two ways to request a line locate:

- Call 8-1-1. New Mexico One Call operators take routine line location requests from 7am to 5pm on weekdays, except holidays. If you have an emergency request, call (866) 344-6662.
- Make a request online. You may also request a line locate 24 hours a day by using New Mexico One Call's web portal <https://geocall.nm811.org/geocall/portal> to fill out an online request form. Your request will be processed the following business day.

SCAN TO PAY



EASY ACCESS PROVIDED TO YOU.

SCAN THE PROVIDED QR CODE TO PAY YOUR ZIA GAS UTILITY BILL IN MINUTES!

RECIPE: Easter Egg Cookies

Ingredients:

- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup cocoa powder, 1 tsp salt
- 2 tsp baking powder, ½ tsp baking soda
- 2 large eggs, 1 Tbsp vanilla extract
- 1 ½ cups candy coated chocolate eggs
- 1 ¼ cups salted butter (room temperature)
- 1 cup granulated sugar, 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 2/3 cups semi- sweet chocolate chips, Pastel sprinkles (optional)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 and line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. Whisk flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, baking soda and salt.
3. Crush candy eggs into large pieces.
3. Beat butter and both sugars together until fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, then add vanilla. Mix in dry ingredients until combined. Stir in most of the chocolate chips and crushed chocolate eggs (save some for topping).
4. Scoop dough onto baking sheets and add remaining chocolate chips, candy, and sprinkles on top. Bake for 10-11 minutes.



Fun Facts About Natural Gas!

The "volcano" in front of the MGM Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas runs on natural gas, and it is designed to smell like piña colada when it erupts!

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Ruidoso

April 4th Free Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Wingfield Park Saturday, 10am. More than 6,000 eggs will be spread throughout the park across four age group areas. Prize eggs will be hidden within each group, and winners may claim prizes at the Parks & Recreation tent. Please arrive before 10am — the hunt begins promptly at 10am.

April 25th Spring Low-Cost Vaccine Clinic RAC at the Ruidoso Fire Dept Station 1, 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm, cash only. Humane Society of Lincoln County will be providing microchips at Fire Station 1 for \$20 from 1pm-3pm. Franklin Veterinary Clinic: 100 Service Ln, Ruidoso Downs 10am-noon & 1-3pm Please call or go in before 4/23 to register. Carrizozo Animal Clinic: 401 12th St from 10am-1pm. Call individual clinics for vaccine costs.

May 1st-2nd Smokey Bear Days 50th Anniversary 10am-4pm
Join in on the fun, including a hometown parade at 10am on Saturday (5/2). Annual firefighter challenge, food, vendors, family friendly activities, games, fire prevention & conversation tables and more!

For more info visit.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1855262838685312>

Hobbs

April 17th Reading Under the Light at the Watson Stadium
This FREE community event will bring families together for a night of reading, fun, and inspiration. Kids will have the chance to visit reading stations hosted by community leaders and a special guest author Mychal Threats, the host of Reading Rainbow.

Las Cruces

April 2, 9, 16, and 23, May 7, 14, and 21 Lush and Learn at the Las Cruces City Hall Council Chambers, 700 N Main St. 5:30-7:30pm on each of these Thursdays. Free workshops on Water Wise Landscaping, irrigation, gardening, and related topics to help Las Cruces residents make the best use of limited water resources.

May 3rd Mesilla Valley Chorale's Spring concert "I Hear America Singing" at the Rio Grande Theatre 3pm. Doors open at 2:30pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchase at the door or online at <https://www.mesillavalleychorale.org/>

Reminder: All information was gathered online through local city hall and chamber of commerce websites and is subject to change. Please contact the appropriate office to confirm details. This section is for local, non-partisan, non-religious, non-profit messages. Preference given to nonprofits. Submit by the 10th to arascon@zngc.com for inclusion in next month's edition. Thank you!

Natural Gas News is an official publication of Zia Natural Gas Company published monthly by Alyssa Rascon, Assistant Office Manager arascon@zngc.com

Lincoln County

100 Short Dr
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346
575-378-4277
1-800-520-4277
Fax: 575-378-4138

Mailing Address

PO Box 888
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346

Hobbs/Jal

510 E Bender Blvd
Hobbs, NM 88240
575-392-4277
1-800-470-9900
Fax: 575-392-8504

Mailing Address

PO Box 2220
Hobbs, NM 88241

Dona Ana County

3700 W. Picacho Ave
Las Cruces, NM 88007
575-526-4427
1-800-453-5546
Fax: 575-523-4945

Mailing Address

3700 W. Picacho Ave
Las Cruces, NM 88007

Colfax County

316 Maxwell Ave
Maxwell, NM 87728
1-800-520-4277
575-375-2277
Fax: 575-375-2753

Mailing Address

PO Box 357
Maxwell, NM 87728