

**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Phone:

Email:

**[Your system's name] Celebrates National Public Natural Gas Week  
October 7-13, 2018**

[City, State] (DATE) – [NAME of your system] will observe the national Public Natural Gas Week from October 7 to 13. This annual nationwide event is intended to build public awareness about the value of having a community-owned natural gas utility. During this week, we will also educate residents on the environmental and cost benefits of using clean, reliable and affordable natural gas in addition to the cost benefits of natural gas appliances.

Nationwide, there are approximately 1,000 public natural gas systems serving more than 5 million customers. These public natural gas utilities are not-for-profit retail distribution entities that are owned by and accountable to the citizens they serve. They include municipal gas distribution systems, public utility districts, county districts, and other public agencies that have natural gas distribution facilities.

Your public natural gas utility is good for the community for many reasons including:

- **Local Control:** Having a public natural gas system gives a community local control over how gas is provided to homes and businesses. Decisions are made through citizen participation instead of being made in a distant city by people who do not understand local issues and who are primarily focused on profits instead of service.
- **Competitive Costs:** In order to offer fair and competitive rates, public natural gas systems operate as a not-for-profit entity. Public natural gas systems do not face pressure to pay dividends to stockholders.
- **Economic Benefits:** As a public natural gas system, we play a valuable role in helping communities broaden its tax base, and in turn improve the local economy and increase jobs. Public natural gas systems ensure that local dollars stay at home.
- **Customer Service:** As a not-for-profit entity, we focus on service, rather than profits. Public natural gas systems are an integral part of a community. We maintain a close relationship with our customers, and as a result, we are successful in meeting our customers' needs.

Thank you for supporting [your system here]. We look forward to continuing to bring safe, reliable natural gas into your homes and businesses. We also hope you join us in supporting natural gas as a premier energy source for our country. As the cleanest burning fossil fuel, natural gas can help us achieve energy security and build a more competitive economy.

If you would like to learn more about the benefits of natural gas and how your public natural gas system works, please contact us at [insert contact information here].