



2023 PENNSYLVANIA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH CAMPAIGN

Safe Digging Month is an awareness initiative sponsored by Pennsylvania 811 for the month of April.

For over fifty years Pennsylvania 811's mission has been to prevent damage to underground facilities. To promote safety, we provide an efficient and effective communications network among project owners, designers, excavators, and facility owners. Since our inception in 1972, we have increased membership from 6 utilities in one county to over 3,700 underground facility owners and operators in all 67 counties. The service is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

The organization incorporated in 1978. The national 811 emergency number went live in 2008. Act 50 (2017) became effective on April 28, 2018, and the electronic "member mapping" service became a requirement for all members. In 2022, Pennsylvania 811 received close to 1,050,000 excavation notifications, and transmitted approximately 6.8 million notifications to their member facility owners and operators allowing essential utility and construction crews to provide vital underground services and repair to critical infrastructure to communities throughout Pennsylvania.

With the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure law and the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program, we anticipate an increase in projects throughout Pennsylvania that will impact the construction industry as well as the underground facility owners.

We encourage everyone to get involved with promoting safe digging practices within your community. The call before you dig process helps to prevent injuries, property damages, inconvenient utility outages, and fines. Safe Digging is a shared responsibility among excavators, homeowners, facility owners, municipalities, cities and county level management and planners.

Traditionally outdoor projects start in the spring. Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month serves as a reminder to all excavators and homeowners to call 811 at least 3 business days before you dig, so the approximate location of the underground utility lines can be identified and marked by facility owners.

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