



**Media Contact:**

Ann Rushing  
336-944-5518  
annrushing@nc811.org

**AUG. 11<sup>TH</sup> (8/11) SERVES AS A CONVENIENT REMINDER  
FOR NC RESIDENTS TO ALWAYS CONTACT 811 BEFORE  
DIGGING**

*North Carolina 811 encourages people to make a free request 3 working days before digging to avoid damaging buried utilities*

**Greensboro, NC (Aug. 8, 2022)** – Aug. 11th is almost here, and North Carolina 811 hopes that the 8/11 date on the calendar will serve as a natural reminder for residents to call 811 prior to any digging project to have underground utility lines marked. Every few minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811.

When calling 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to North Carolina 811, the local one call center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Single address ticket request can also be made online at <https://newtin.nc811.org/nc811oa/> Professional locators then arrive at the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, spray paint or both.

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, inconvenient outages, and fines. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants contacting 811 by phone or online. Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that require a free request at least three days before breaking ground.

“On Aug. 11 and throughout the year, we remind homeowners and professional contractors alike to the free 811 service before digging to reduce the risk of striking an underground utility line,” said Louis Panzer, Executive Director for North Carolina 811. “It really is the only way to know which utilities are buried in your area.”

The depth of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked because even when digging only a few inches or digging in a location that has previously been marked, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists.

Visit [www.nc811.org](http://www.nc811.org) for more information about 811 and safe digging practices.

###