



Public Service Commission of West Virginia

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For Immediate Release

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PSC Promotes National 811 Day - Monday, August 11 (8-11)

The Public Service Commission of West Virginia reminds residents to call 811 before they dig on Monday, August 11 (8-11) and every other day. Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree and laying a patio are all examples of projects that require a call to West Virginia 811 before starting.

As everyone hurries to finish their outdoor projects before the end of summer, let the 8-11 calendar date serve as a natural reminder to call West Virginia 811 a few days before beginning any digging project. The depth of utility lines varies and the risk of striking an underground utility exists, even when digging only a few inches. Striking a pipeline, wire or cable can cause personal injury or death and may result in costly repairs, fines or inconvenient outages.

When homeowners and contractors call West Virginia 811, the appropriate utility companies are notified of their intent to dig. Within 48 hours, professional locators from each company are sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags and paint. Once lines have been accurately marked, digging can begin. There is no cost to the customer for this service.

“On August 11 and throughout the year, we remind homeowners and professional contractors alike to call 811 before digging to eliminate the risk of striking an underground utility line. Failure to call before digging can potentially be catastrophic, and we do not want any West Virginians to become part of a tragic statistic,” said Michael Albert, Chairman of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia. “A free call to 811 is the best tool available to protect citizens working in their yards as well as the utility lines buried underground.”

Call 811 or 800-245-4848 before every digging project. For more information about West Virginia 811, visit www.wv811.com or www.psc.state.wv.us.

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