



**SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.**

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National Safe Digging Month: Honoring a Legacy of Safety

As spring blooms and outdoor projects commence, it's essential to highlight the significance of National Safe Digging Month. Each April, the focus turns to raising awareness about safe digging practices and the vital role of the 811 service in preventing accidents and disruptions.

The roots of this observance trace back to a tragic incident in June 2004 when a natural gas pipeline

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2024 NASCAR ENTITLEMENT

Call811.com Every Dig. Every Time. 200



March 9th, 2024, the Call811.com Every Dig. Every Time 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series race featured Arizona 811's sponsorship in partnership with 811 centers and other industry stakeholders from across the country, emphasizing the importance of underground utility safety. With the Call811.com logo prominently displayed, the event highlighted the need to contact 811 before any excavation.

Arizona 811's involvement showcased its dedication to promoting safe digging practices, reaching a broad audience and reinforcing the message that safety is paramount in both racing and real-life excavation projects.



Photograph taken by: Matt Dodd - USA North 811

TOP STRATEGY FOR REDUCING DAMAGES



Increased Communication

FACILITY MAPS
are a key piece of communication. ✓



CGA Common Ground Alliance | Industry Survey, October 2023

This year, damage prevention professionals are zeroing in on a key factor in making progress toward CGA’s 50-in-5 goal: getting the right information to the right people – across every stakeholder group.

Last fall, CGA surveyed more than 500 damage prevention professionals representing a range of stakeholder groups about the industry’s most pressing concerns and most promising solutions. The top challenges respondents identified included facilities that were not marked or marked inaccurately, as well as outdated and inaccurate facility maps – all of which contribute to late locates and create pressure to cut corners.

Some industries – such as liquid pipeline/gas transmission, 811 centers and excavators – expressed confidence in their preparedness for the year ahead, while others – such as telecom – acknowledged there is more work to be done.

To confront the obstacles ahead and reduce damages, respondents across the board pointed to improved communication as the top strategy. They also recommended increased focus on locator and excavator education and training, more consistent enforcement of local laws and regulations and changes to requirements that aren’t working.

Finally, damage prevention professionals focused more on mapping than ever before – with 41% identifying it as a top concern compared to 32% in 2020 – and pointing to GIS-based mapping information as one strategy to improve the accuracy of facility maps.

To download the full results from the 2023 industry survey, click [here](#).



56% of homeowners plan to dig without notifying 811 in the next year.

Contact 811. Every Dig. Every Time.

CGA *Based on March 2024 polling



- 56% of homeowners planning do-it-yourself projects this digging season will not contact 811 beforehand.
- 95% of homeowners said they valued contractors contacting 811 to have the underground utilities on their property marked.
- 45% of homeowners report being affected by a utility service interruption of three hours or longer over the past year.

You can see 4.19 million miles of roads in the U.S. - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

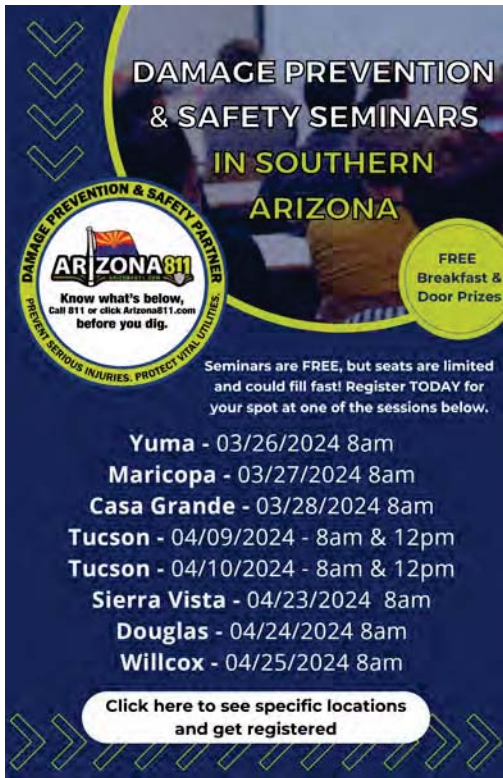
WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE INCLUDES:



Utility Type	Miles	Associated Organization
Cable	485,000	National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA)
Water	1,000,000+	American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
Sewer	1,000,000+	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Electricity	2,000,000+	U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)
Pipelines	2,600,000+	Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

THINK ABOUT IT.
811
Know what's below. Call before you dig.

U.S. STATISTICS



DAMAGE PREVENTION & SAFETY SEMINARS IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

ARIZONA 811
Know what's below, Call 811 or click Arizona811.com before you dig.

FREE Breakfast & Door Prizes

Seminars are FREE, but seats are limited and could fill fast! Register TODAY for your spot at one of the sessions below.

- Yuma - 03/26/2024 8am
- Maricopa - 03/27/2024 8am
- Casa Grande - 03/28/2024 8am
- Tucson - 04/09/2024 - 8am & 12pm
- Tucson - 04/10/2024 - 8am & 12pm
- Sierra Vista - 04/23/2024 8am
- Douglas - 04/24/2024 8am
- Willcox - 04/25/2024 8am

[Click here to see specific locations and get registered](#)

Arizona 811's Southern Seminar Tour kicked off with a bang, drawing eager attendees from across the southern region of the state to engage in educational seminars focused on safe digging practices. With the first leg of the tour underway and seats filling fast, participants are gearing up for an insightful journey through the intricacies of underground utility safety.

The tour, designed to spread awareness about the importance of safe excavation practices, provides a platform for industry professionals, homeowners, contractors, and utility workers to enhance their understanding of underground infrastructure and the vital role it plays in our daily lives.

Through a series of interactive

sessions, attendees delve into topics ranging from the fundamentals of the 811 call-before-you-dig system to best practices for preventing damage to buried utilities. Expert speakers share their knowledge and experiences, offering valuable insights and practical tips to help participants navigate the complexities of excavation projects safely and efficiently.

One of the standout features of the seminar tour is its emphasis on practical learning, enabling participants to gain valuable experience through demonstrations and simulations. Covering tasks ranging from identifying underground utility markings to employing appropriate excavation techniques, attendees can enhance their skills within a supportive and collaborative setting.

As the tour progresses, excitement continues to build, with seats for upcoming seminars filling up rapidly. Participants are encouraged to secure their spots early to ensure they don't miss out on this unique educational opportunity.

The Southern Seminar Tour represents a significant step forward in Arizona 811's ongoing efforts to promote safe digging practices and reduce the risk of underground utility damage. By empowering individuals with

knowledge and resources, the organization aims to foster a culture of safety and responsibility within the excavation industry.

With more seminars scheduled in the coming weeks, there's still plenty of opportunity to join the journey and become a part of this transformative educational experience. Whether you're a seasoned professional or new to the world of excavation, the Arizona 811 Southern Seminar Tour offers something for everyone.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of this dynamic initiative. Secure your seat today and embark on a learning adventure that promises to inform, inspire, and empower. Together, we can ensure a safer, more resilient future for Arizona's underground infrastructure.

Social Media Influencer

The Dirt Ninja joins forces with CGA and 811, promoting safe exploration and responsible digging practices. Together, they're reshaping excavation content with a focus on safety and sustainability.

The Dirt Ninja's creed: Anybody can run equipment. Very few can operate.





National Safe Digging Month: Honoring a Legacy of Safety continued

explosion in Hatfield, Penn., claimed the lives of five people, including a young boy. This devastating event underscored the critical need for increased awareness and education surrounding safe digging practices. In response, the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) spearheaded efforts to promote safe digging practices, leading to the designation of April as National Safe Digging Month in 2008.

Since its inception, National Safe Digging Month has grown into a nationwide campaign supported by industry organizations, utility companies, government agencies, and community groups. Through a combination of educational initiatives, public outreach efforts, and partnerships, the campaign

strives to empower individuals to take proactive steps to prevent damage to underground utilities.

Every dig, whether for a small yard project or a large-scale construction endeavor, carries inherent risks, including the potential to damage underground utility lines. These lines, which may include gas, electric, water, sewer, and telecommunication cables, are critical components of our infrastructure. Accidental damage not only poses serious safety hazards but also leads to service interruptions, costly repairs, and environmental harm.

This National Safe Digging Month, we want to thank you for every time you've contacted Arizona 811 before your excavation projects. Even at this busy time of year, notifying 811 for every digging project, every time helps ensure worker safety and prevents costly utility damage. Whether you've worked the jobsite previously, you've dug without notifying 811 before without incident, have a looming project deadline, or just simply think you know where all the utilities are on a job, remember that because a single utility strike can be fatal, it's never worth it to take a chance.

A single dig-in can result in significant fines, repair costs and downtime that come out of your

company's bottom line.

We can't rely on previous experience on a jobsite as a replacement for using the 811 process. Utilities can be buried in remote locations, at any depth, and can shift over time. Excavators should always contact 811 at least two (2) working days prior to any digging—it's the only way to know for sure that there are no underground utilities in conflict with a jobsite.

As we commemorate National Safe Digging Month once again let's honor the legacy of those affected by past incidents by reaffirming our commitment to safety. Together, let's continue to promote awareness, educate the public, and foster a culture of safe digging practices for generations to come. Safety is in your hands. Every dig. Every time.

As Arizona 811 celebrates its 50th anniversary, it marks half a century of fostering safety and efficiency in underground excavation. Since its inception, Arizona 811 has been a cornerstone of responsible digging practices, safeguarding infrastructure and communities across the state. With a legacy of collaboration and innovation, this milestone underscores Arizona 811's enduring commitment to promoting safe excavation practices for generations to come.

