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COLORADO 811 CELEBRATES NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

*Colorado 811 encourages Colorado residents to always contact
811 at least three business days before digging*

Golden, CO (March 21, 2018) – April is National Safe Digging Month in Colorado and across the nation. Colorado 811 hopes this serves as a reminder to all Colorado residents that they must contact 811 at least three business days before any digging project. Even simple gardening and landscaping projects, such as planting a shrub require homeowners to contact 811, by either calling 811 or submitting a request through Ticket Express <http://colorado811.org/ticket-express/>.

National Safe Digging Month is officially recognized by the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate and has traditionally earned the support from nearly every state governor across the country, including Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper.

When contacting 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to Colorado 811, the local One Call center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig and their location. Professional utility locators are then sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, paint or both.

Striking a single utility line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, requires contact to 811. Installing a mailbox, building a deck and planting a tree or garden are all examples of digging projects that should only begin after contacting 811. Homeowners who are completing projects like installing a fence or landscaping were more than three times more likely to hit a buried utility line because they did not contact 811 before breaking ground.

“Your life could depend on calling 811!” said J.D. Maniscalco, Colorado 811 CEO.
“Excavating without first understanding what dangers are below is digging blind. Don’t

dig blind, click or call 811 at least three days prior to excavating. By using 811 you will help keep your family, property and your community safe.”

The depth of utility lines can vary for several reasons, such as erosion, landscaping projects, soil conditions or storms. Utility lines need to be properly marked because even when digging only a few inches, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists.

Colorado 811 encourages all residents to visit www.co811.org for more information about digging safely.

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