

PLAN & PROTECT!

It is great to be heading back to work after the Stay Home, Stay Safe Order. Unfortunately, the utility industry has seen a **40% increase** in damages to **underground** and **overhead** infrastructure as our industry is working diligently to catch up.

Our primary concern is to ensure that employees and communities remain safe. Aside from the inconvenience of delayed projects and repair costs, damage to natural gas and/or electric lines can result in injury to those on-site and nearby. In addition, disruption to communication facilities can create a safety risk by impacting 911 services, alarm monitoring, and health care networks.

- Pause work for safety **“stand-downs”** when violations are seen.
- Empower workers to **report unsafe work practices** immediately!
- **Do not** take shortcuts.

Facility owners work closely with the Michigan Public Service Commission to ensure public safety resulting from line damages. All damages are reported to the MPSC. Failure to comply with safe digging regulations may result in serious regulatory, legal, and financial consequences.

Do you know that underground utilities can be within 12 inches or less from the surface? Excavators are required by law to contact MISS DIG 811 three business days prior to excavating. After verifying the utilities have been marked, excavators must determine the precise location of underground utilities through soft excavation methods as required by [Public Act 174](#).

MANDATORY STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING:

1. **Contact MISS DIG 811 Before You Dig – including with hand or power tools and even driving stakes for concrete restoration and tent installation**
2. **Wait the required amount of time (three business days after your request is placed)**
3. **Check Positive Response**
4. **Respect the Marks**
5. **Dig with Care**

PLAN & PROTECT! Report any damages to the facility owner.

This is a partnership. MISS DIG 811, facility owners, and excavators need to work together. We are available to answer your questions and provide support. For escalations and support, contact:

- MISS DIG 811: 248-370-6400
- DTE Gas damage prevention: 313-670-0003
- [Consumers Energy map link](#).
- AT&T: 231-941-9954