Abandon Facilities

Bruce Campbell, MISS DIG 811
The Problem

- Increase in utilities being buried underground.
- Directional drilling has decreased the cost to bury facilities.
- Many ordinances are vague or non-existent when addressing the requirements for abandon facilities.
“Michigan DOT does not allow abandonment of facilities within the ROW. We only allow a utility to place a utility line out of service. This is intended to indicate that the utility company is still the owner of the facility and is still required to maintain records for future transportation improvements and remove the line at their cost if necessary.”
"Facility" or "underground facility" means an underground or submerged conductor, pipe, or structure, including, but not limited to, a conduit, duct, line, pipe, wire, or other device and its appurtenances used to produce, store, transmit, or distribute a utility service, including communications, data, cable television, electricity, heat, natural or manufactured gas, oil, petroleum products, steam, sewage, video, water, and other similar substances, including environmental contaminates or hazardous waste.
How MISS DIG 811 Can Help

Abandon Facility Database and Auto Response
Abandon Facility Code

- **Used by:** Members who ABANDON or place facilities OUT OF SERVICE
- **Benefits:**
  - Provides notice to contractor that there are idle lines in the area via Positive Response
  - Can provide notice to the member when work is occurring near the facility
  - When the Facility is uncovered use, status and owner can be determined.
How it Works . . .

- Similar to Member codes for a facility, an member code will be established for the abandon/ out of service line(s)
- The notification area will be limited to the location of the lines. Reduced or expanded buffers can be determined by the member
How it Works . . .

- The name and contact for the facility will be stored in the member code.
- MISS DIG 811 can provide the contact information when the line is uncovered.
How it Works . . .

- If ownership transfer, the member code and notification area will reflect the new owners name and contact information.

- Should the line be abandon, MISS DIG 811 will hold ownership of the member code. This will:
  - Keep contractors notified of the line.
  - Provide a record of ownership.
How it Works . . .

- When the work area of a ticket overlaps the notification area of the Abandon/Not in Use line, the Member will appear on the ticket.
- Similar to Drain Commission's the member will have the ability to respond to the ticket or an auto-generated Positive Response will be used.