



# Safe Excavation Practices

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# Introduction to Safe Excavation Practices with Sarah McKenzie



**MISS  
DIG  
811**



# 1970

Michigan Bell,  
Consumers, DTE,  
Consolidated Gas of  
Michigan, and Oakland  
County founded MISS  
DIG 811.



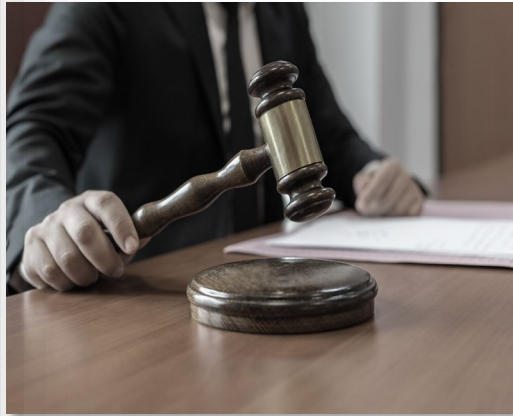
## 1970

Michigan Bell, Consumers, DTE, Consolidated Gas of Michigan, and Oakland County founded MISS DIG 811.



## 1974

Public Act 54 was passed.





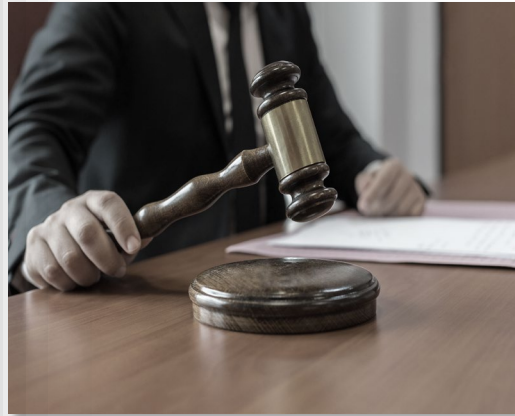
## 1970

Michigan Bell, Consumers, DTE, Consolidated Gas of Michigan, and Oakland County founded MISS DIG 811.



## 1974

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## 1994

MISS DIG 811 was incorporated as a nonprofit organization.



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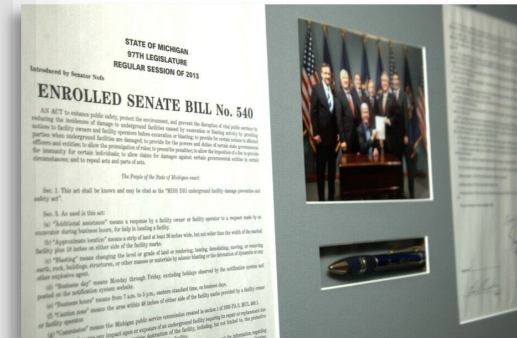
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## 2013

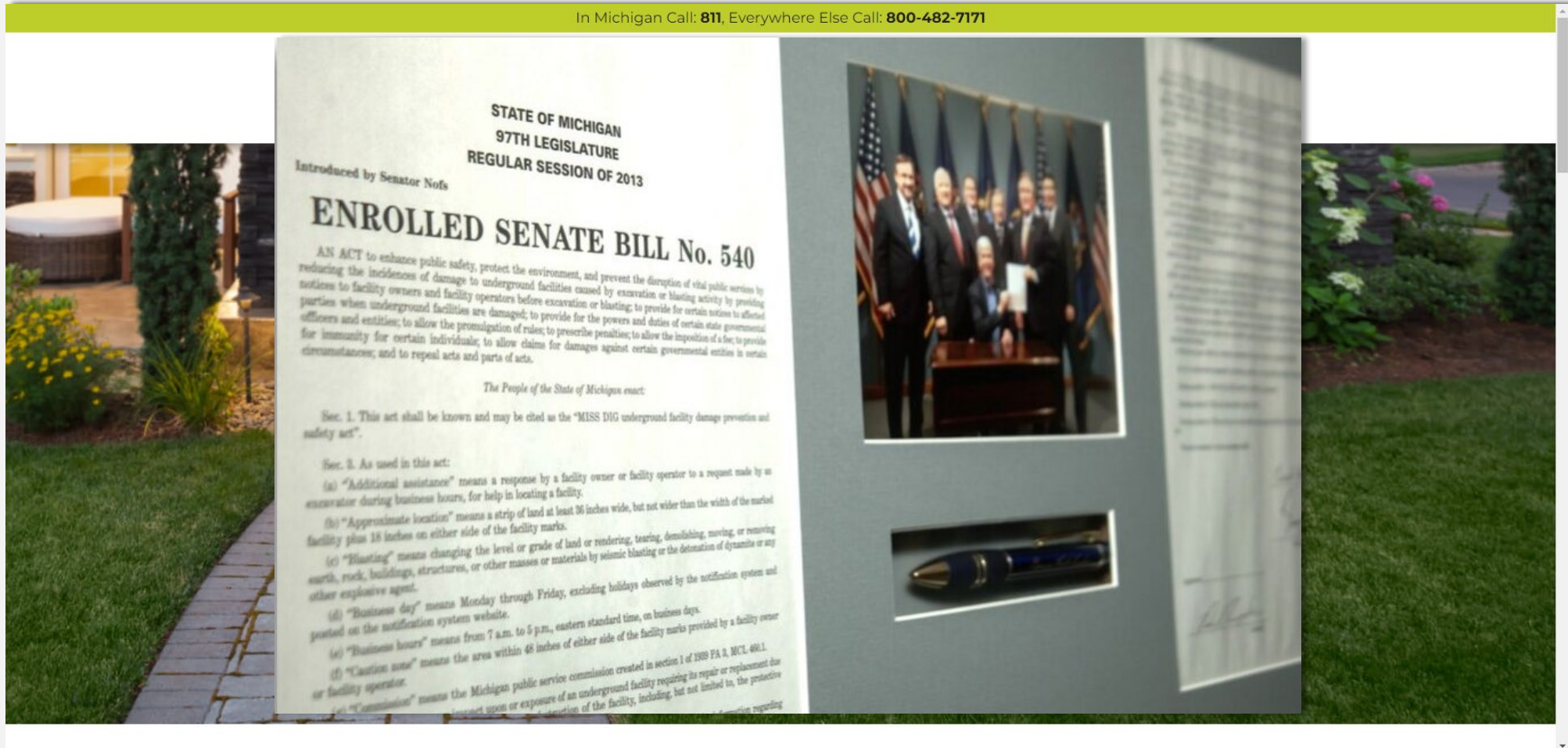
MISS DIG 811 helped pass Public Act 174, the MISS DIG Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act.



# Public Act 174, “MISS DIG Law”

The standard for safe excavation practices in Michigan.

In Michigan Call: **811**, Everywhere Else Call: **800-482-7171**



**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
97TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013**

Introduced by Senator Nofs

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 540**

AN ACT to enhance public safety, protect the environment, and prevent the disruption of vital public services by reducing the incidences of damage to underground facilities caused by excavation or blasting activity by providing notices to facility owners and facility operators before excavation or blasting; to provide for certain notices to affected parties when underground facilities are damaged; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; to allow the promulgation of rules; to prescribe penalties; to allow the imposition of a fee; to provide for immunity for certain individuals; to allow claims for damages against certain governmental entities in certain circumstances; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “MISS DIG underground facility damage prevention and safety act”.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

- (a) “Additional assistance” means a response by a facility owner or facility operator to a request made by an excavator during business hours, for help in locating a facility.
- (b) “Approximate location” means a strip of land at least 36 inches wide, but not wider than the width of the marked facility plus 18 inches on either side of the facility marks.
- (c) “Blasting” means changing the level or grade of land or rendering, tearing, demolishing, moving, or removing earth, rock, buildings, structures, or other masses or materials by seismic blasting or the detonation of dynamite or any other explosive agent.
- (d) “Business day” means Monday through Friday, excluding holidays observed by the notification system and posted on the notification system website.
- (e) “Business hours” means from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., eastern standard time, on business days.
- (f) “Caution zone” means the area within 48 inches of either side of the facility marks provided by a facility owner or facility operator.
- (g) “Commission” means the Michigan public service commission created in section 1 of 2009 PA 3, MCL 400.1.
- (h) “Damage” means the physical destruction or exposure of an underground facility requiring its repair or replacement due to excavation or blasting activity, including, but not limited to, the protective

**MISS DIG 811**



# What is excavation?

## Michigan

- **Public Act 174**
  - Excavation consists of moving, removing, or otherwise **displacing earth**, rock, or other material below the existing surface level with **power tools or equipment**.

## Federal

- **Federal Code of Regulations, Title 49, Part 196**
  - Excavation consists of **any excavation activity** using **mechanized and non-mechanized equipment**, including hand tools.



# PA 174 applies to everyone

- It requires any person involved in or responsible for planning or conducting any type of excavation to submit a dig notice to MISS DIG 811 at least **3 business days** before beginning.



**MISS DIG  
811**

# Contact MISS DIG 811

## MISS DIG 811 is free!

24  
HOURS  
365  
DAYS



AVAILABLE 24/7/365

MISSDIG811.ORG

CALL 811





# Contact MISS DIG 811 – The Process

1



**CONTACT MISS DIG 811  
ONLINE OR BY PHONE**



# Contact MISS DIG 811 – The Process

1



**CONTACT MISS DIG 811  
ONLINE OR BY PHONE**

2

## DIG TICKET

-  Location
-  Type of work  
you will do
-  Name of the company or  
person doing the work
-  Project start date

**SUBMIT A  
DIG TICKET**

# Contact MISS DIG 811 – The Process

1



**CONTACT MISS DIG 811  
ONLINE OR BY PHONE**

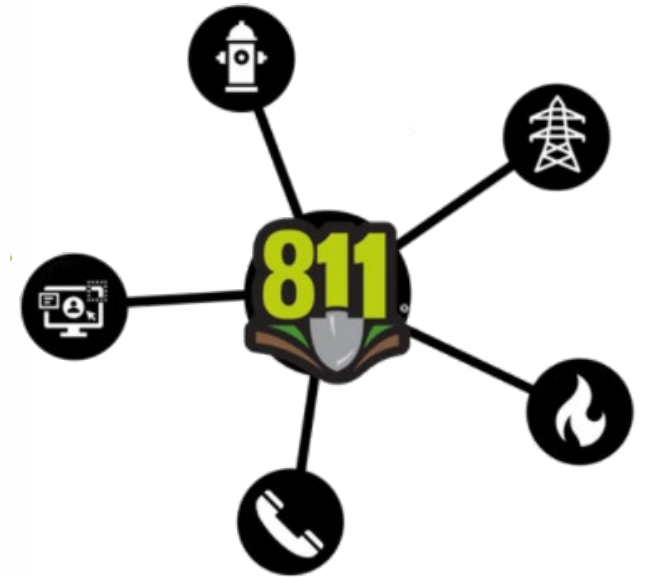
2

## DIG TICKET

-  Location
-  Type of work you will do
-  Name of the company or person doing the work
-  Project start date

**SUBMIT A  
DIG TICKET**

3



**THE TICKET IS TRANSMITTED  
TO THE FACILITY OWNERS**







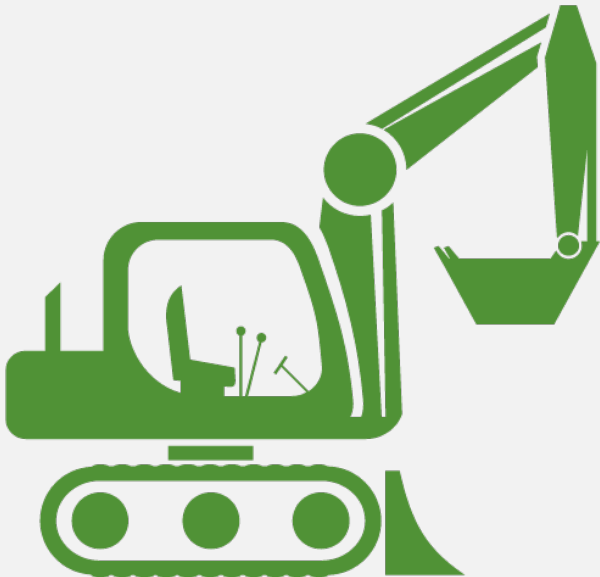
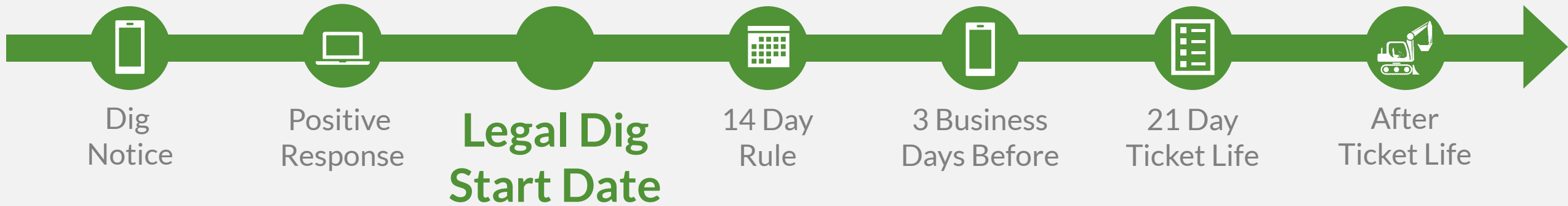
**MISS DIG 811 is NOT  
the locating company.**

MISS DIG 811 does not mark  
underground utility lines.

# The MISS DIG 811 Process



# The MISS DIG 811 Process



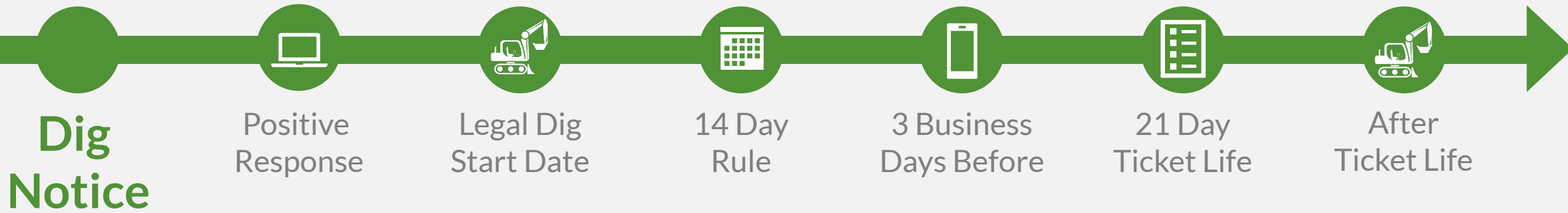
It is the date on which the proposed excavation or blasting is requested to begin as indicated on the dig notice.

**Important:** The legal start date begins 3 business days after you submit the ticket, up to the exact time.

For example, if you placed a ticket at 11:40 a.m. on Monday, the legal start date would be 3 business days after (Thursday) at 11:40 a.m.



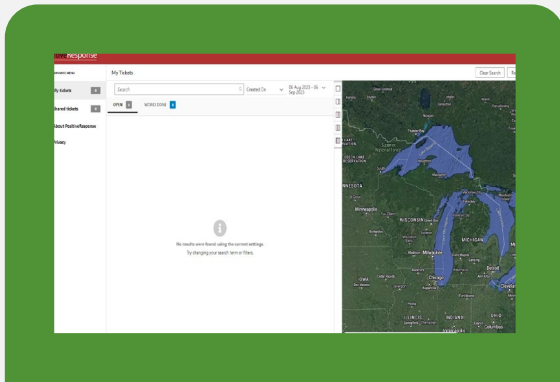
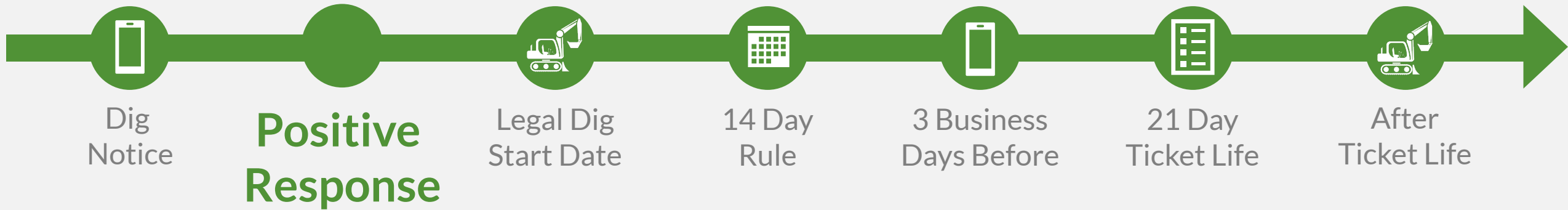
# The MISS DIG 811 Process



Before starting a project, contact MISS DIG 811.

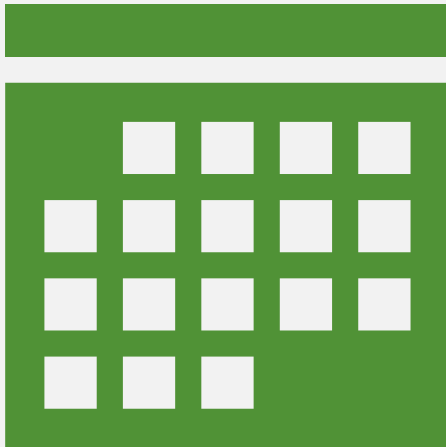
**At least 3 business days before starting**  
**Maximum of 14 calendar days before starting**

# The MISS DIG 811 Process



Positive Response allows member facility owners to provide the locating status, by Station Code, for each ticket they receive.

# The MISS DIG 811 Process



## Legal start date and 14 days without excavation

If excavation has not started 14 days after the legal start date, the ticket is no longer valid and a new ticket needs to be submitted.

Why? Destroyed or removed markings, etc.



# The MISS DIG 811 Process



Dig  
Notice



Positive  
Response



Legal Dig  
Start Date



14 Day  
Rule



3 Business  
Days Before



21 Day  
Ticket Life




After  
Ticket Life

**MISS DIG 811** Ticket No: 2021112400037 Rev:000  
User Reference: Not Supplied

**Excavator Details**

Caller ID: 1181198 Phone: 1211231234  
Contact: Dave Bowen Mobile: 987657676  
Company: Gruzinski Fiber Email: na\_mj@missdig.org

**Dig Site and Ticket Details**

 Ticket Status: Original  
Previous Ticket No.: 2021112400039-000  
Ticket Type: Normal - 21 day  
Ticket Date: 11/24/2021 10:17  
Work to Begin Date: 11/26/2021 00:00  
Work Legal Start Date: 11/26/2021 00:00  
Work Expiration Date: 12/21/2021 23:59  
Address: 3289 W Lapeer Rd Auburn Hills  
Nearest Cross Street: Lapeer Rd  
Lot Number/Subdivision:  
Type of Work: Construction  
Activity: Building addition  
Excavation Method: Grading  
Excavation Depth: 12in to 24in  
Working for: --Not Listed--  
Onsite Company: Gruzinski Fiber  
Onsite Contact Name: David Bowen  
Onsite Contact Phone: 2483706440  
Private Locate: No Area Pre-marked: No  
Put on Property: No Work in Water: No

**Your Responsibilities**

- Be sure the work location is accessible to facility owners/operators and their contract locators.
- Do not proceed with your works until the legal start date/response due date has arrived and ALL facility owners/operators have responded that it is safe to dig.
- When marking within 48" of any facility marking, hand dig to expose the line prior to using power equipment.
- If you have contact with a line, you are required to contact the facility owner immediately.
- If you need assistance, please contact Web Ticket Support at [webtickets@missdig811.org](mailto:webtickets@missdig811.org)

**Utility Owner Details**

The public utility owners listed below with a Status of "Notification Sent" have been requested to respond to your request. They may contact you directly for clarification of your request details.

Station Code	Authority Name	Phone	Status
CS&CK	CONSUMERS ENERGY DESIGN	5173741002	Notification Sent
CEGDIS	CONSUMERS ENERGY GAS	5177861806	Notification Sent
GRUZFBAR	Gruzinski Fiber	2483706413	Notification Sent
USICTEST1	USIC SUB-SETT TESTING	3178108254	Notification Sent
URGTEST	UTILITY RESOURCE GROUP, LLC SUB-SETT TESTING	7087749963	Notification Sent

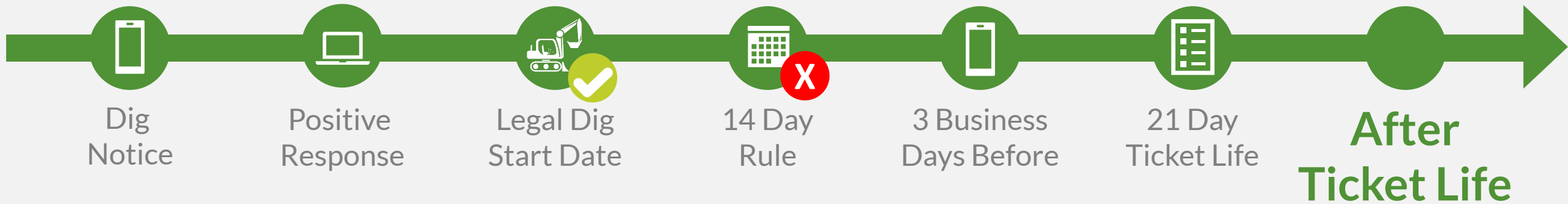
Request Utility Locates Online at [www.missdig811.org](http://www.missdig811.org) - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Most tickets are valid for 21 calendar days from the legal start date.





# The MISS DIG 811 Process



After 21 days – ticket expires.

Any work done on an expired ticket will be treated as if a dig ticket had never been submitted.

If the work is going to continue after 21 days, you need to submit a new ticket.



# The MISS DIG 811 Process



3 business days before the expiration date

The project can continue without stopping

**COPY**

# Ticket Types



# Placing a Ticket

New ticket

**1 Ticket details** ⓘ  
Information about the worksite and type of work involved

**Ticket type\***

Project - 180 day

Normal - 21 day

Normal - 180 day

**Project - 180 day**

Design

Emergency

Short Notice

Concerned Caller

Work Completion Date\*  
mm/dd/yyyy

Work Legal Start Date  
Mar 04 2024 12:46 PM

Work Expiration Date (Ticket Expiration)  
Aug 31 2024 11:59 PM

## 180 Day Project Ticket?

PA 174. 460.725: Duty of excavator

(2) A dig notices shall contain

(e) Whether the proposed blasting or excavation will be completed within 21 days after the start date.

(3) A ticket is valid for 21 days from the start date of the excavation or blasting on the ticket as identified by the excavator, except that a ticket is valid for 180 days from the start if the dig notice indicates that the proposed excavation or blasting **will not be completed within 21 days from the start date.**



# PA 174 Exemptions

Replace in their current place:



guardrails



mailboxes



signs

# PA 174 Exemptions

Replace in their current place:



guardrails



mailboxes



signs

Excavation in:



cemeteries



landfills



# PA 174 Exemptions

Replace in their current place:



guardrails



mailboxes



signs

Excavation in:



cemeteries



landfills

Maintenance of:



roads



railroads

No more than 12" / 1'  
below ground level.

Not next to or on top of a  
large facility.



# PA 174 Exemptions

Replace in their current place:



guardrails



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Excavation in:



cemeteries



landfills

Maintenance of:



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No more than 12" / 1'  
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Not next to or on top of a  
large facility.

Normal activity on:



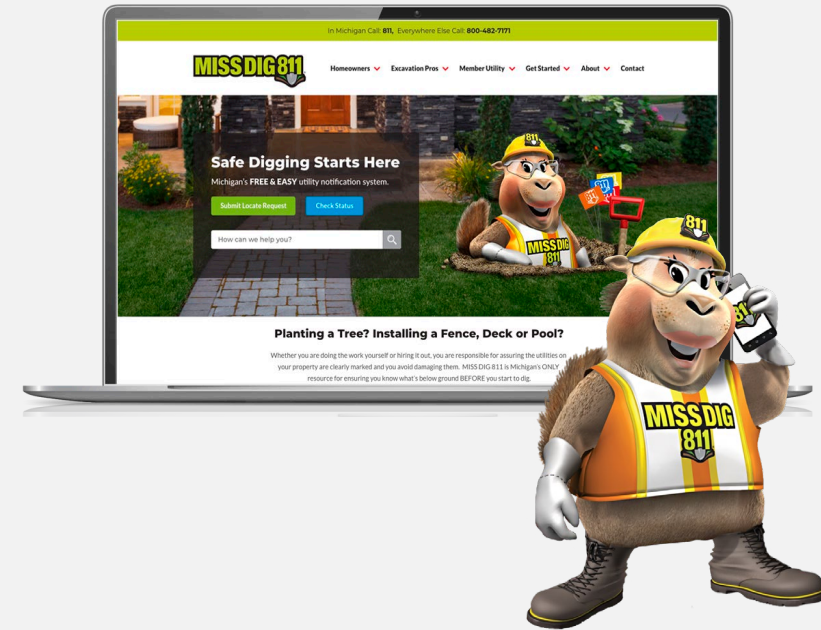
farms

Not near a highway or  
pipeline right-of-way or  
within 6 feet of a utility  
structure.



# Protections with exemptions

- They do not protect the excavator from damage claims, or the financial responsibility sought by the owner of the damaged facilities.
- There is no exemption for work of any kind under federal regulations.



No matter the scope or size of the job, it is always recommended to submit an excavation ticket, and...

**It's free!**



# Knowledge Check

Premiere Builders in Lansing is preparing to excavate the foundation for a new mixed-use office building replacing a previously demolished restaurant.



Does this project meet the definition of excavation as defined by the state of Michigan?



This project qualifies as an excavation project. The Michigan legal definition is that excavation consists of moving, removing, or otherwise displacing earth, rock, or other material below the level of the existing surface with power tools or equipment.

# Knowledge Check

If Premiere Builders wants to start their excavation project on Thursday, May 21, when is the latest they can contact MISS DIG 811?

						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	 21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

A. 14 hours before starting.

B. Monday, May 18 at the latest

C. Wednesday, May 6 at the latest.

MISS DIG 811 must be contacted at least 3 business days, but no more than 14 calendar days before the start of work.



# Knowledge Check

After submitting an excavation ticket with MISS DIG 811, you need to contact the utility owners to inform them of the project.

YES

NO



**CONTACT MISS DIG 811  
ONLINE OR BY PHONE**

## DIG TICKET



Location



Type of work  
you will do

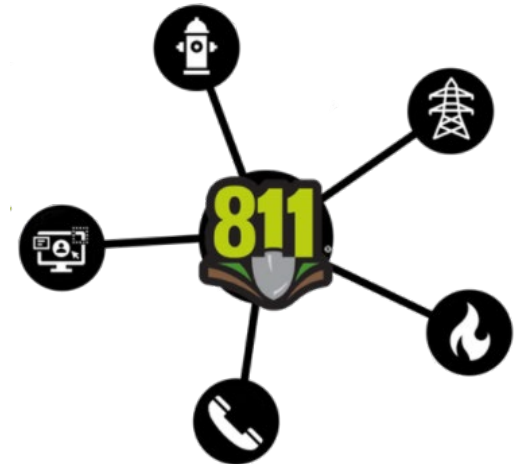


Name of the  
company or person  
doing the work



Project start date

**SUBMIT A  
DIG TICKET**



**THE TICKET IS TRANSMITTED  
TO THE FACILITY OWNERS**





# How to Submit a Ticket



# Work Site Location

- There is a map of the job site on the ticket.
- The polygon is the description of the work site.
- The polygon determines which utility owners receive notifications about the project.



# Ticket Confirmation Sheet



**Ticket No:** 000000000000

**Rev:** 000

**User Reference:** done us army corp of engineers

## Excavator Details

Caller ID:

Phone:

## Utility Owner Details

The public utility owners listed below with a Status of "Notification Sent" have been requested to respond to your request. They may contact you directly for clarification of your request details.

Station Code	Authority Name	Phone	Status
CENTL1	CENTURYLINK TELEPHONE	2312285200	Notification Sent
CHARCTV	CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS CABLE TV	8007789140	Notification Sent
CHARFBR	CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS FIBER OPTICS	8007789140	Notification Sent
CLOVER	CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY ELECTRIC	9066325191	Notification Sent
MANISWTR	MANISTIQUE CITY POTABLE WATER	9063412281	Notification Sent
MANISSANI	MANISTIQUE CITY SANITARY SEWER	9063412281	Notification Sent
MANISSTRM	MANISTIQUE CITY STORM SEWER	9063412281	Notification Sent
SEMCOGAS	SEMCO ENERGY GAS	8884271427	Notification Sent

END OF UTILITIES LIST

	Original		
ed No.	Not Supplied		
	Project - 390 day		
	8/29/2022 11:38		
ed Date	88/13/2022 11:05		
ent Date	88/13/2022 11:05		
ce Date	81/30/2023 23:59		
	in lake shore dr Manistique		
Street	in cedar st		
Subdivision	MANISTIQUE RIVER		
	Water		
	Other		
ethod	Mechanical Excavation		
pth	>48in		
	--Not Listed--		
ry	engineering		
Name			
Phone			
	No	Area Pre-marked	No
	No	Work in Water	No

## Your Responsibilities

- Be sure the work location is accessible to facility owners/operators and their contract locators.
- Do not proceed with your works until the legal start date/response due date has arrived and ALL facility owners/operators have responded that it is safe to dig.
- When working within 48" of any facility marking, hand dig to expose the line prior to using power equipment.
- If you make contact with a line, you are required to contact the facility owner immediately.
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MANISSTRM	MANISTIQUE CITY STORM SEWER	9063412281	Notification Sent
SEMCOGAS	SEMCO ENERGY GAS	8884271427	Notification Sent

END OF UTILITIES LIST

Facility Owner/Operator contact information is listed at the bottom of the Ticket Confirmation Sheet.



# Knowledge Check

A ticket can be submitted using only GPS coordinates.

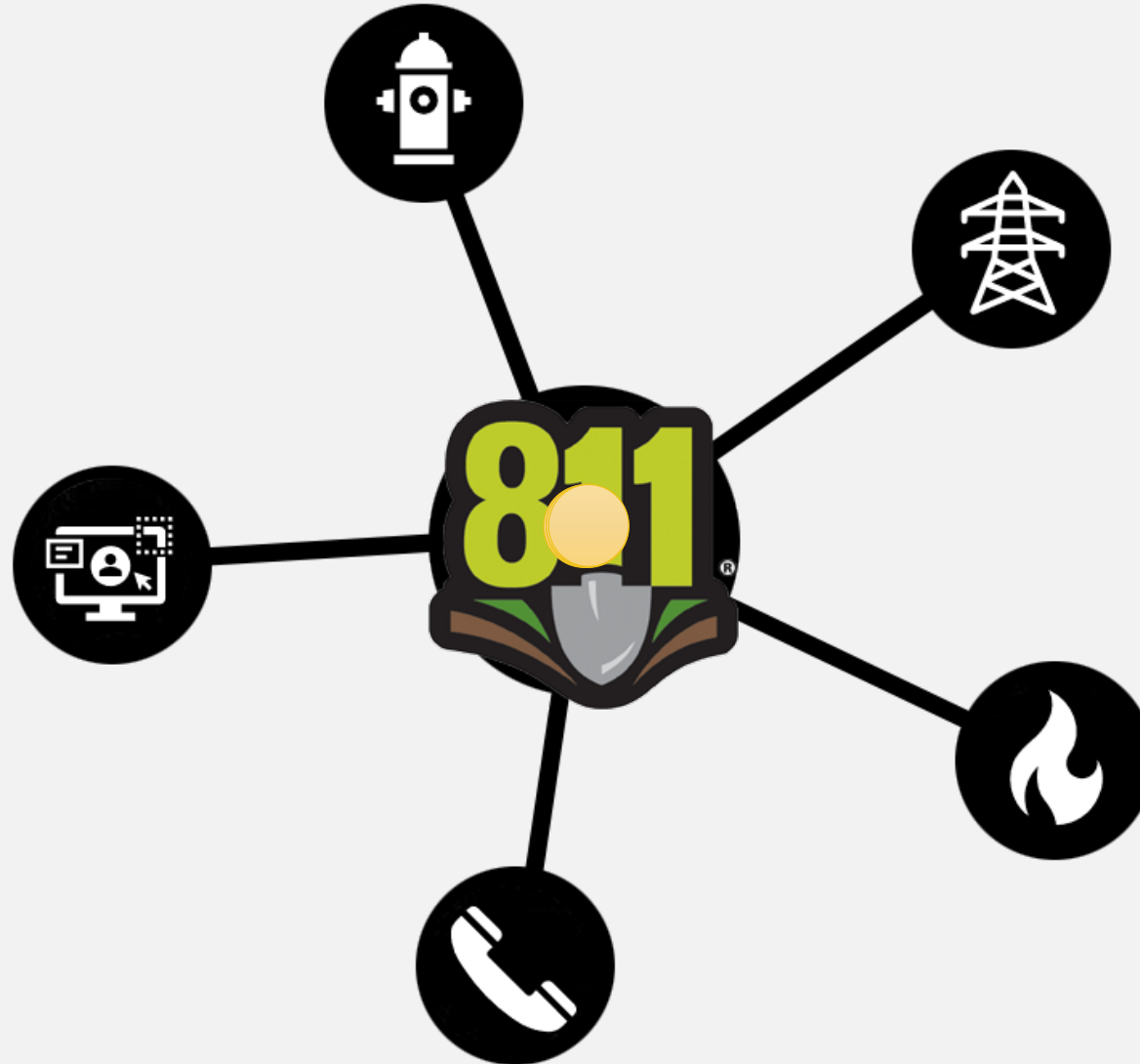


YES

NO

# Facility Owners

After you submit a ticket, it is transmitted electronically to all of the facility owners in that area.





# Definitions

## Facility

An underground or submerged conductor, pipe, or structure: Conduit, duct, line, pipe, wire, or other device and its accessories used to produce, store, transmit, or distribute a utility service.

## Facility Owner

A person that owns a facility.

## Facility Operator

A person that controls the operation of a facility.



## Members of MISS DIG 811

- Facility owners and operators in Michigan are required to be members of MISS DIG 811.
- Members fund the notification system and the database that allows them to receive tickets.
- Facility owners can locate and mark the location of underground infrastructure based on the “ticket”, “dig notice” or “locate request”.

# Role of the Facility Owner

# 1

## Receive Ticket



Most facility owners or contracted locators receive tickets via email.

They can also be imported directly into an active ticket management system.

# Role of the Facility Owner

1

## Receive Ticket



Most facility owners or contracted locators receive tickets via email.

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2

## Review Ticket



Determine if they own and operate underground utilities within the described work site.

# Role of the Facility Owner

1

Receive Ticket



Most facility owners or contracted locators receive tickets via email.

They can also be imported directly into an active ticket management system.

2

Review Ticket



Determine if they own and operate underground utilities within the described work site.

3

Mark Lines



If there are buried lines, they have three business days to locate and mark the approximate location of their lines.

# Role of the Facility Owner

1

Receive Ticket



Most facility owners or contracted locators receive tickets via email.

They can also be imported directly into an active ticket management system.

2

Review Ticket



Determine if they own and operate underground utilities within the described work site.

3

Mark Lines



If there are buried lines, they have three business days to locate and mark the approximate location of their lines.

4

Respond



Post on Positive Response.

If no utilities are present, provide a response of “No Conflict”.

If their lines are present, they post the appropriate response.

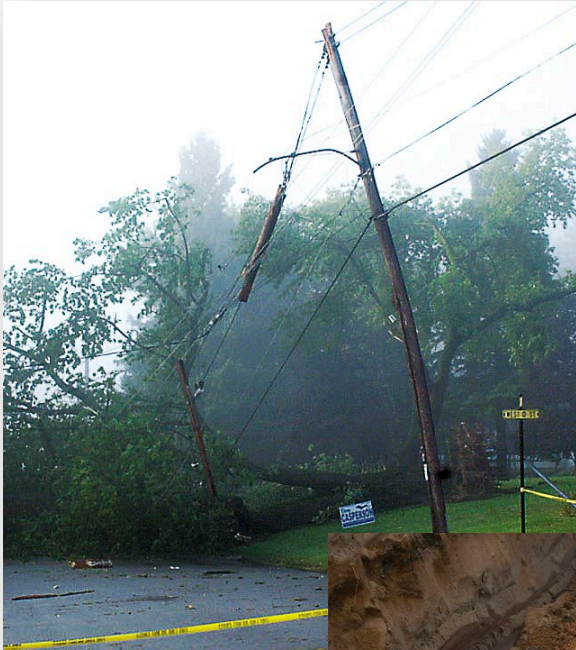


# Emergency Tickets

When a member receives notification of an emergency ticket, the mandatory response time is 3 hours.

## Emergency

A sudden or unforeseen occurrence, including a government-declared emergency, involving a clear and imminent danger to life, health, or property, or imminent danger to the environment, that requires immediate correction in order to restore or to prevent the interruption of essential governmental services, utility services, or the blockage of public transportation and that requires immediate excavation or blasting.



# Emergency Tickets

If there is a threat to LIFE, health, or property, dial

911



# Knowledge Check

Premiere Builders submitted a dig ticket. The utility owners have been notified and do have underground lines at the proposed location.

How soon should utility owners respond?

A. Within 3 Hours

B. Within 24 Hours

C. Within 3 Business Days

D. Within 14 Calendar Days

Since there are buried lines, you have 3 business days to send a utility locator to locate and mark the approximate location of your lines.



# Knowledge Check

How long is the Premiere Builders ticket valid for?

A. For 21 calendar days from the legal start date

B. For 3 Business Days

C. For 14 calendar days from the legal start date

D. There is no expiration date for their ticket

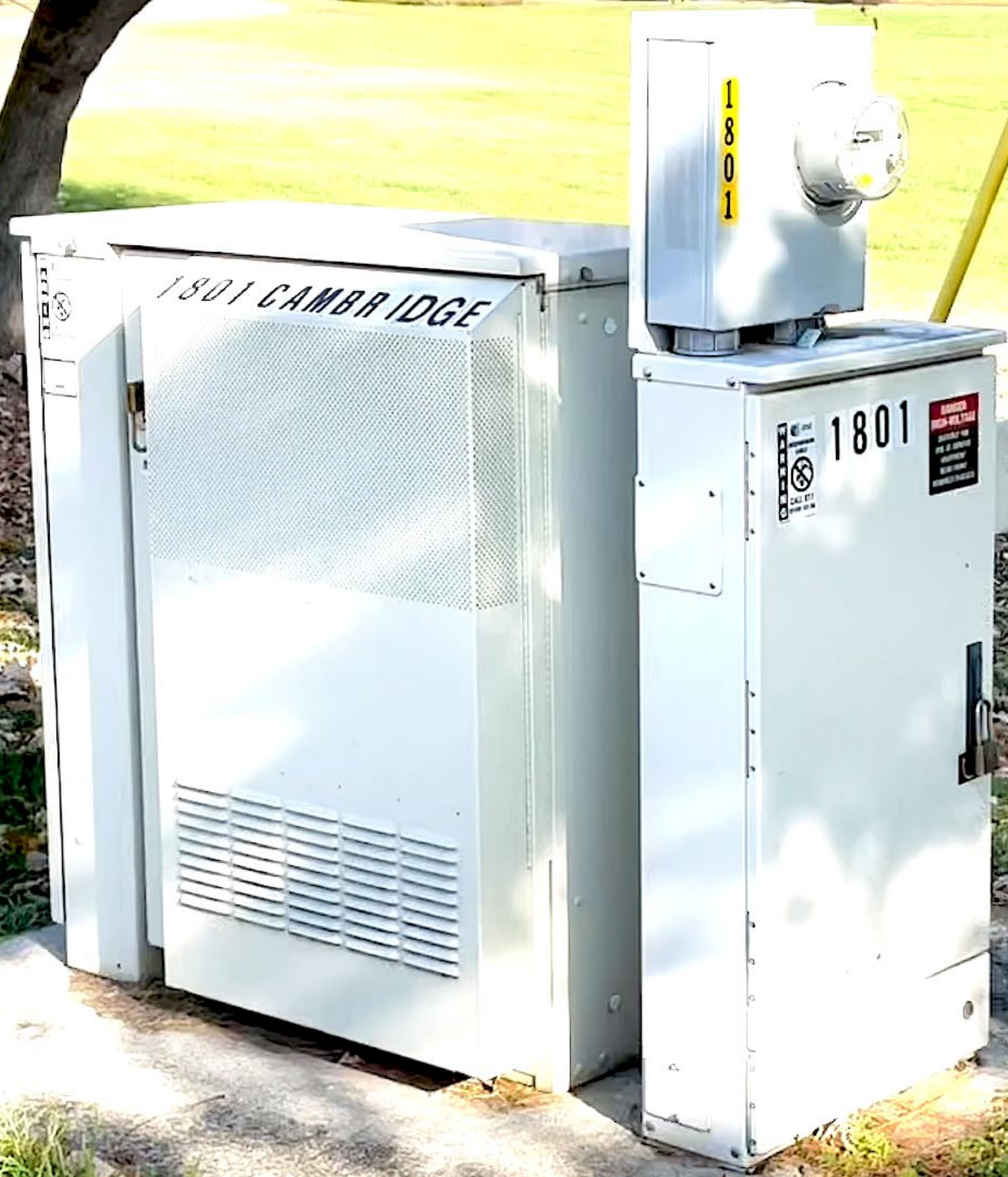
Most tickets are valid for 21 calendar days from the legal start date.





# Locating Utility Lines





**MISS  
DIG  
811**

The logo features a stylized shovel with a grey blade and a brown handle, positioned at the bottom of the text. The shovel is set against a background of green grass and brown soil.



# National Color Code

Potable Water

Gas, Oil, Steam

Communication

Sewers & Drain Lines

Electricity

Reclaimed Water, Slurry

Proposed Excavation

Survey Markings

Potable  
Water

Sewers and  
Drain Lines

Gas, Oil,  
Steam

Survey  
Markings

Reclaimed  
Water, Slurry

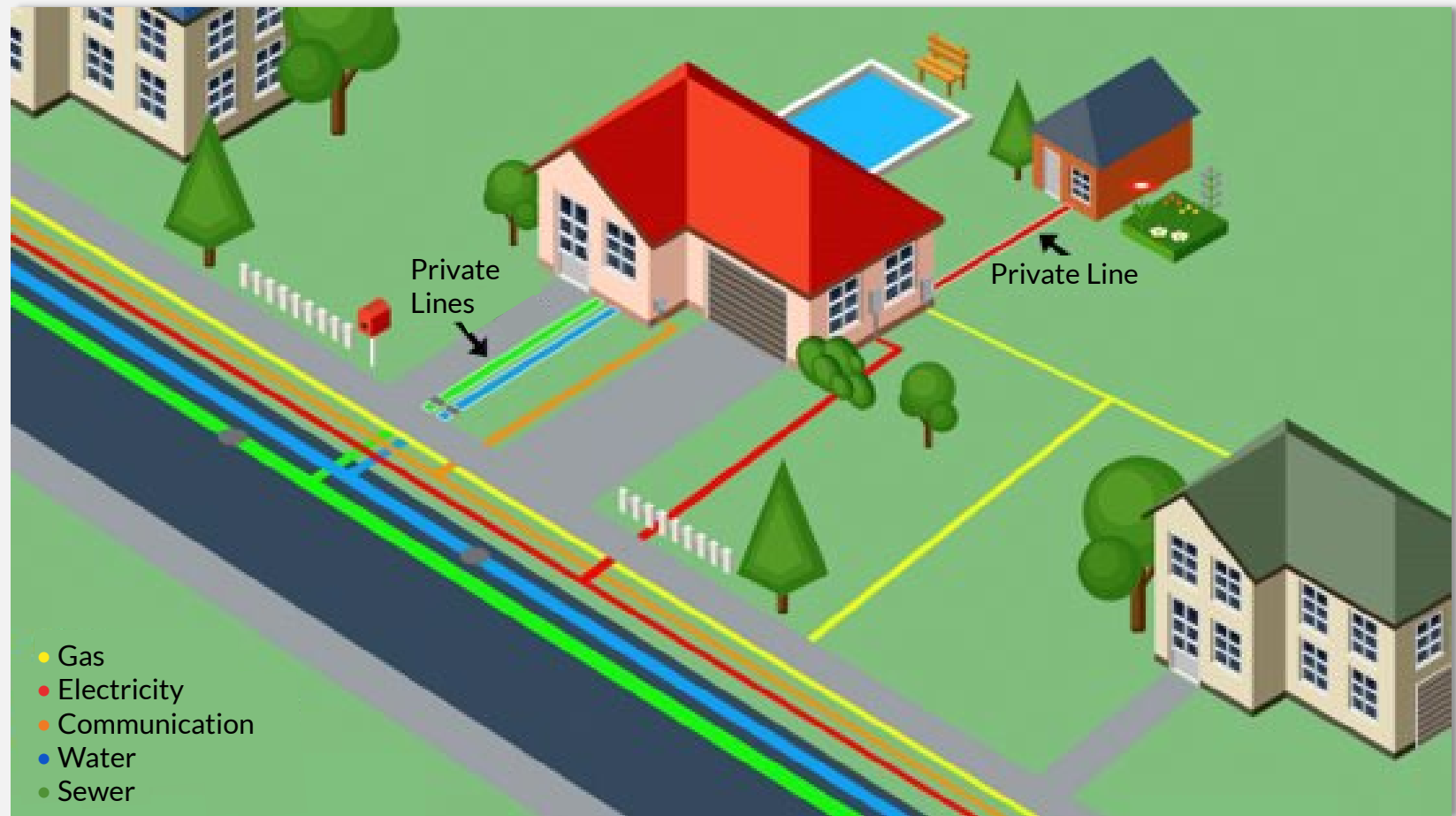
Electricity

Proposed  
Excavation

Communication

# Private Lines

Many underground lines are considered private and are outside the free services of MISS DIG 811.



# Private Lines on Commercial Property

- Private lines on commercial property include:
  - Power lines to parking structures
  - Outdoor lighting
  - Heating and communications
  - Water and sewage facilities



# Private Lines on Commercial Property



Companies that have infrastructure on their property solely for their private use are not required to participate in the MISS DIG 811 system.

In this example, if an excavation ticket is submitted for the property, MISS DIG 811 utility owners will respond to mark their buried facilities, but buried infrastructure owned by the health system will not be marked.



# Private Lines on Residential Properties



- Private lines on residential properties include:
  - Water wells
  - Septic tanks
  - Irrigation lines
  - Propane lines
  - Water service lines and sewer laterals
  - Any utility that provides a service to an independent structure beyond the utility meter



# Work impact



Excavators should contact the owners of the property where they will be working to determine if private lines are present.

Require a private locate?

YES

NO

The notification center will send the excavator's information to its private locate partners.

A representative from the private locator will contact the contractor and provide details and information on how they can be contacted to mark the private infrastructure on the ticket.

# Exemptions – MDOT and County Drainage Commissions

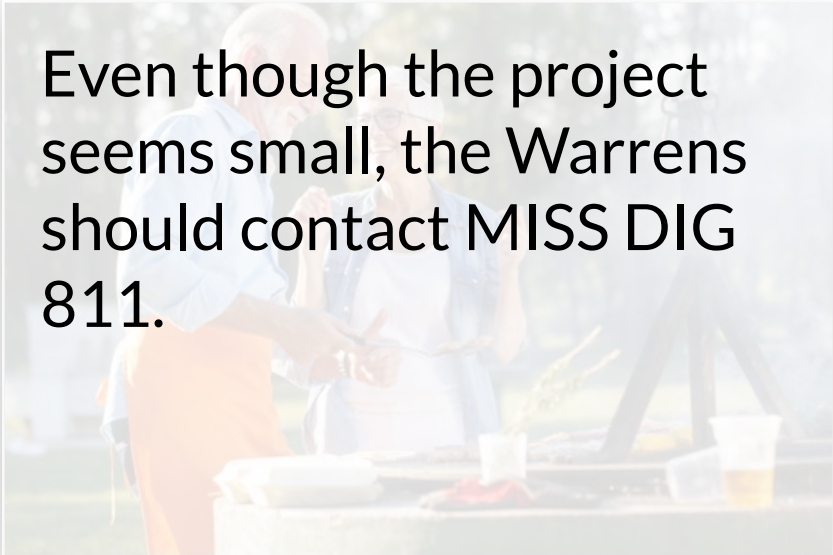
- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), as well as all County Drainage Commissions in the state, are exempt from the requirements to locate and mark their buried facilities.
- A private locate specialist can find any MDOT or Drainage Commission facilities at a work site.
- Excavators/Subcontractors cannot be held financially responsible for hits to unmarked lines if all other aspects of the MISS DIG 811 process have been followed.
- Excavators/Subcontractors hired to perform work on behalf of MDOT or a Drainage Commission must still contact MISS DIG 811 and follow all requirements under PA 174.



# Knowledge Check

James and Mary Warren are preparing to add an outdoor gas grill with a buried propane line in their backyard.

Do they need to contact MISS DIG 811?



Even though the project seems small, the Warrens should contact MISS DIG 811.

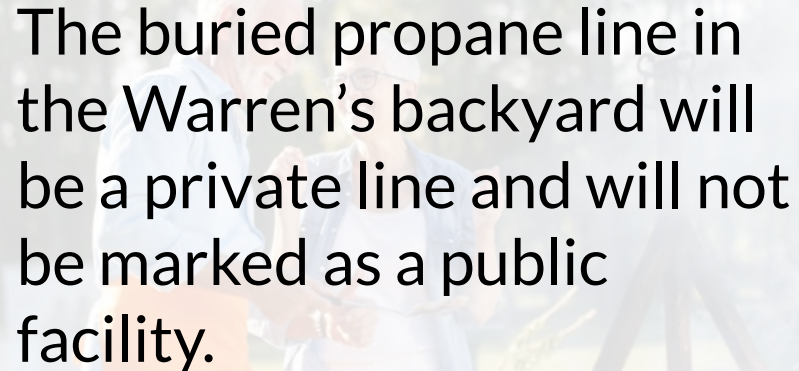
YES

NO

# Knowledge Check

James and Mary Warren have completed their outdoor gas grill project, with a propane line buried in their backyard.

Will that propane line be marked in the future?



The buried propane line in the Warren's backyard will be a private line and will not be marked as a public facility.

YES

NO

# Knowledge Check

ACME Manufacturing Company's facility contains infrastructure on its private property used solely by its business.

Are they required to be members of the MISS DIG 811 system?

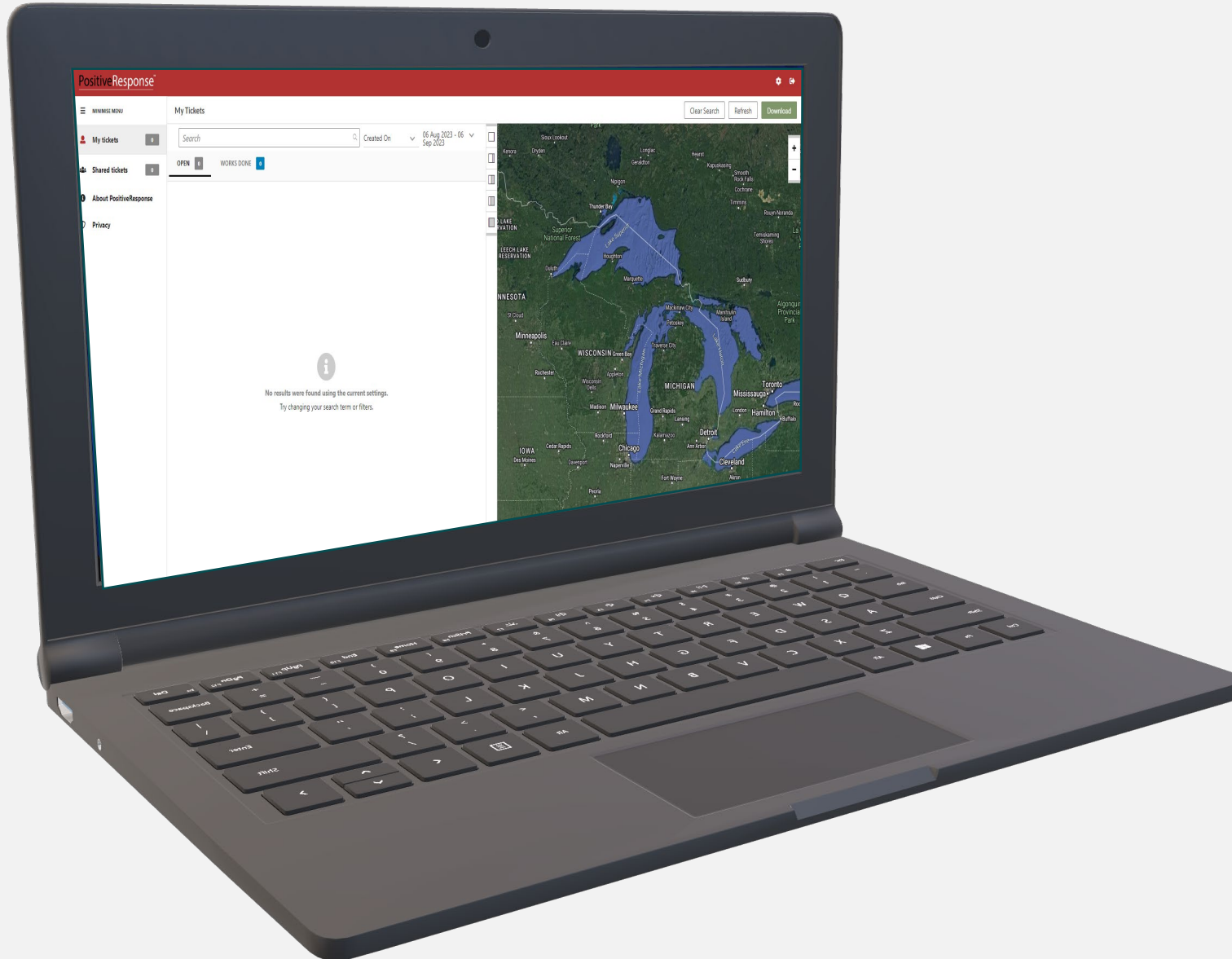
Companies that have infrastructure on their private property solely for their use are not required to participate in the MISS DIG 811 system.

YES

NO



# Positive Response

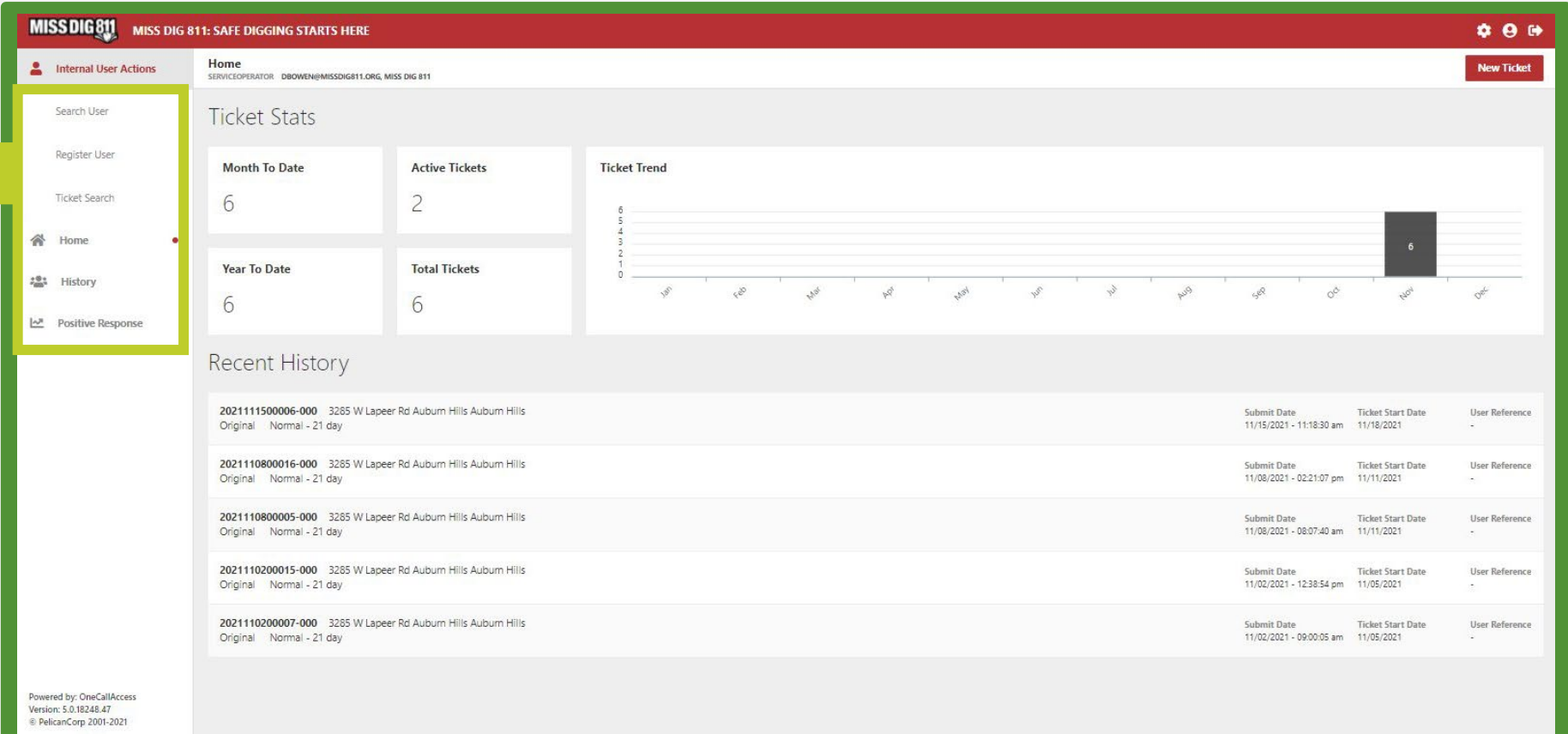


- Positive Response is the system used by facility owners and hired contract locators post a status update on the marking of a ticket.
- All facilities must indicate that it is safe to dig before an excavator can begin their project.
- Participation in Positive Response is required by law for BOTH the excavator and the facility owner/operator

# Positive Response



# Positive Response



The screenshot displays the MISS DIG 811 web application. On the left, a navigation menu is visible with options: Search User, Register User, Ticket Search, Home, History, and Positive Response. A large green arrow points from the 'Positive Response' menu item to a callout box. The callout box contains a simplified version of the navigation menu with icons for Home, History, and Positive Response, where 'Positive Response' is highlighted with a green border. The main dashboard area shows 'Ticket Stats' with 'Month To Date' (6) and 'Active Tickets' (2), and 'Year To Date' (6) and 'Total Tickets' (6). A 'Ticket Trend' bar chart shows a single bar for November with a value of 6. Below this is a 'Recent History' table with five entries. At the bottom of the dashboard, it says 'Powered by: OneCallAccess Version: 5.0.18248.47 © PelicanCorp 2001-2021'.

Click “Positive Response” in the left navigation menu

Check Positive Response through OneCallAccess (OCA)

# Positive Response

- Scroll through the list and select an open ticket.
- Tickets remain “open” until designated that the work is done.
- Once closed, you may still access the ticket, but utilities may not respond to it in the future.

The screenshot displays the PositiveResponse web application. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation links: "My tickets" (57), "About PositiveResponse", and "Privacy". The main content area is titled "My Tickets" and features a search bar, a date range filter (22 Oct 2021 - 22 Nov 2021), and a status filter (OPEN: 57, WORKS DONE: 1). Below the filter, a list of tickets is shown, each with a checkbox, a ticket ID, a location, creation and start dates, and a "View" button.

Checkbox	Ticket ID	Location	CREATED ON	JOB START	Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021110800013	Prospect St Hancock	08 Nov 2021, 11:02am	08 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111500016	Waldon Rd Independenc...	15 Nov 2021, 04:28pm	15 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111500015	5573 Juneberry Ct Water...	15 Nov 2021, 04:24pm	16 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111500018	47676 Galleon Dr Plymo...	15 Nov 2021, 04:41pm	17 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111700005	4091 State Rd Hillsdale	17 Nov 2021, 07:21am	17 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111700006	4091 State Rd Hillsdale	17 Nov 2021, 07:23am	17 Nov 2021	View
<input type="checkbox"/>	2021111500017	415 N Sherman St Bay Ci...	15 Nov 2021, 04:37pm	17 Nov 2021	View

On the right side of the interface, there is a map of the Great Lakes region. The map shows the five Great Lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario) and surrounding land areas. A blue polygon highlights a specific area in the Lake Superior region. The map includes a scale bar (0 to 250 miles) and a coordinate display (Latitude: 44.6005, Longitude: -86.3650). The map is powered by Google Maps and includes a "Download" button.



# Positive Response Codes

2021112200027-000 3285 W Lapeer Rd Auburn Hills

Download X

Ticket OpenWorks Done

1/1  
RECEIVED

RECEIVEDNOT RECEIVED

Start date  
26 Nov 2021

Created on  
22 Nov 2021, 04:29 pm

Created by  
DaveBowen

Reference

Add internal note

Search by Asset Owner or Station Code Most recent

<input type="checkbox"/>	Gruzowski Fiber	RESPONSE CODE 002	STATION CODE GRUZFBR	RECEIVED 1:50 PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Response(s): 3			

That's all the asset owners with these filter settings.

←

Gruzowski Fiber  
REQUEST NO. 2021112200027

23 Nov 2021, 01:50pm 2021112200027-000 assigned by Kathleen Gruzowski

Code: 002  
Full Description: Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements: Facilities have been marked.  
Notes: Complete

23 Nov 2021, 01:50pm 2021112200027-000 assigned by Kathleen Gruzowski

Code: 003  
Full Description: Do NOT dig: Locating was not completed because more time is needed; coordination or assistance required to complete the locating of the facility.  
Notes: After further review, there are facilities in the work area but I ran out of flags. Will be back shortly with more flags.

23 Nov 2021, 01:48pm 2021112200027-000 assigned by Kathleen Gruzowski

Code: 001  
Full Description: Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements: Facility is outside of stated area/scope of excavation.  
Notes: No facilities in mapped work area

That's all the responses from this asset owner.





# Positive Response Codes

001

## NO CONFLICT

Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements: Facility is outside stated area/scope of excavation.



002

## MARKED

Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements: Facilities have been marked.



003

## NOT COMPLETE

**Do NOT dig:** Locating was not completed because more time is needed; coordination or assistance required to complete the locating of this facility.



004

## MARKED, UTILITY REQUIRED ON-SITE DURING EXCAVATION

Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements: Facility owner/operator required to be on-site when excavating within noted scope of work for this specific facility.



# Positive Response Codes

000

**RESPONSE PENDING - Do not dig.** Legal start date and time has not started.  
This is a system-generated response.



010

**EXEMPT FROM MARKING - Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements:**  
As defined in PA 174 Section 460.727 Sec. 7 (9). This is a system-generated response.



011

**THERE ARE NO MEMBERS IN THE SUPPLIED WORK AREA - Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements:**  
There are no member facility owners/ operators that request to be notified in the area of excavation. Your request has been forwarded to MISS DIG 811 management for review. This is a system-generated response.



012

**POSSIBLE ABANDONED FACILITY - Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements:** There may be an abandoned facility in the proposed excavation area. This is a system-generated response.



013

**CANCELED TICKET - Do not dig.** The dig notice was canceled.  
This is a system-generated response.



020

**WORKING NEAR AN MDOT RIGHT OF WAY - Dig with caution following PA 174 requirements:** Please review the right-of-way maps. If the project encroaches onto MDOT property, please contact the appropriate Transportation Service Center (TSC) for information regarding MDOT infrastructure.



999

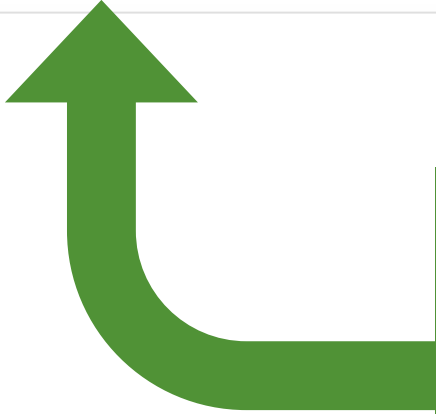
**HAS NOT RESPONDED - Do not dig.** Facility owner/operator did not provide a response by the response due date and time. Retransmit ticket for unmarked facilities. This is a system-generated response.



PositiveResponse™

Search by ticket number

|



**SEARCH BY TICKET  
NUMBER AT  
POSR.MISSDIG811.ORG**







# Role of an Excavator

1



**PLACE A DIG NOTICE WITH  
MISS DIG 811**





# Role of an Excavator

1



PLACE A DIG NOTICE WITH  
MISS DIG 811

2

MISS DIG 811						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

WAIT 3 BUSINESS DAYS FOR THE  
WORK SITE TO BE MARKED



# Role of an Excavator

1



PLACE A DIG NOTICE WITH  
MISS DIG 811

2

MISS DIG 811						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

WAIT 3 BUSINESS DAYS FOR THE  
WORK SITE TO BE MARKED

3



CHECK POSITIVE RESPONSE



# Pre-job Scout

Before any equipment or tool breaks ground at a job site, excavators should examine or scout the site for any potential hazards:

- Overhead lines
- Visual cues of unmarked or mismarked underground lines:
  - Communication pedestals
  - Utility meters
  - Transformers without colored markings
  - Pipeline permanent markers





# Overhead Lines



## If overhead electric lines are present:

- Excavators are encouraged to reach out to the local power company to develop a plan that will allow them to work near the lines safely.
- A spotter should always be used when working near overhead lines.
- Treat all overhead lines as **LIVE LINES**.



# Unmarked Facilities



- If unmarked facilities are present:
  - Do not start digging
  - An 'Unmarked Facility' notification must be made to MISS DIG 811
  - The notification center will inform the facility owner/operator of note, and they must respond within **3 business hours**.



# Destroyed Markings

At any time during the life of the MISS DIG 811 ticket where markings are destroyed, the excavator must contact the Notification Center and create a “Destroyed Markings” notice.

The information will be sent to the facility owner/operator present on site.

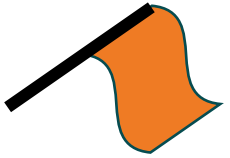
Lines must be re-marked within 24 business hours.



# Retransmit Tickets

# Retransmit Tickets

## DESTROYED MARKINGS

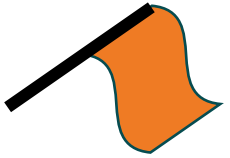


Markings no longer visible  
Confusion over markings  
Locating is inaccurate

Facility owner/operators  
must respond within  
**24 hours**, excluding all non-  
business hours.

# Retransmit Tickets

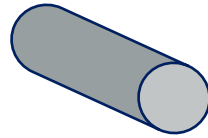
## DESTROYED MARKINGS



Markings no longer visible  
Confusion over markings  
Locating is inaccurate

Facility owner/operators  
must respond within  
**24 hours**, excluding all non-  
business hours.

## UNMARKED FACILITY



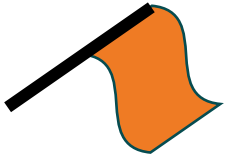
Utility(s) have not been  
marked  
Markings are incomplete

Facility owner/operators  
must respond within **3**  
**business hours** or an agreed  
upon time.



# Retransmit Tickets

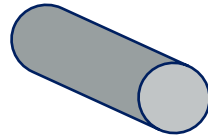
## DESTROYED MARKINGS



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Confusion over markings  
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Utility(s) have not been  
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Facility owner/operators  
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upon time.

## ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

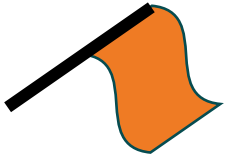
The location of a marked  
facility cannot be determined  
through soft excavation  
methods and assistance is  
needed from a specific  
utility(s)

Cannot request until after the  
Legal Start Date has passed,  
unless it is an emergency  
request.

Facility owner/operators  
must respond within **3**  
**business hours** or an agreed  
upon time.

# Retransmit Tickets

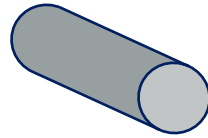
## DESTROYED MARKINGS



Markings no longer visible  
Confusion over markings  
Locating is inaccurate

Facility owner/operators must respond within **24 hours**, excluding all non-business hours.

## UNMARKED FACILITY



Utility(s) have not been marked  
Markings are incomplete

Facility owner/operators must respond within **3 business hours** or an agreed upon time.

## ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

The location of a marked facility cannot be determined through soft excavation methods and assistance is needed from a specific utility(s)

Cannot request until after the Legal Start Date has passed, unless it is an emergency request.

Facility owner/operators must respond within **3 business hours** or an agreed upon time.

## TYPES OF USER

### BASIC USERS

Can retransmit a ticket for additional assistance but needs to call for other types of retransmits.

### EXTERNAL PLUS USERS

Can retransmit their own tickets.

# Knowledge Check

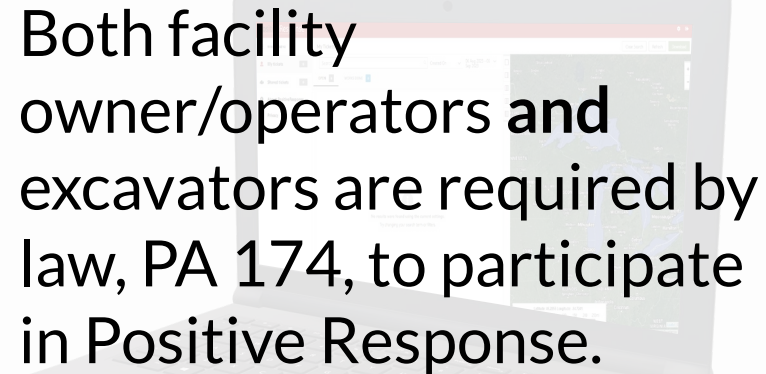
As soon as the excavator starts working, it is required by law to check Positive Response for the work status.

Excavators must check  
Positive Response **before**  
starting work.



# Knowledge Check

Only the facility owner/operators are required to participate in Positive Response under Public Act 174.



Both facility owner/operators **and** excavators are required by law, PA 174, to participate in Positive Response.

YES

NO



# Soft Excavation

When the excavation activity involves the use of power tools, heavy equipment, or machinery, excavators must employ manual excavation techniques when working near facility markings.

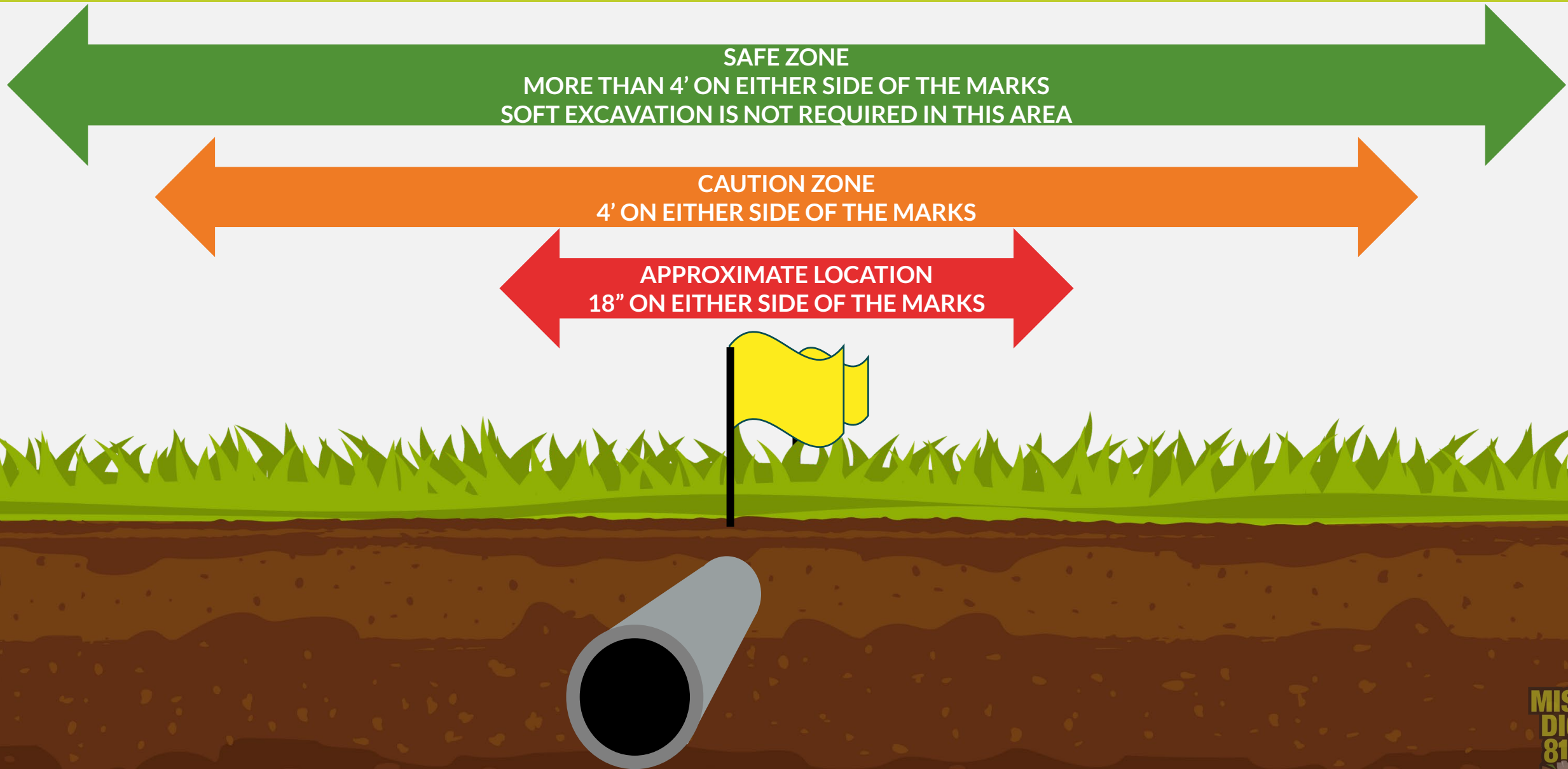
## Soft Excavation

A method or technique designed to prevent contact damage to underground facilities, which includes, among others:

- Digging with hand tools
- Digging carefully with non-motorized tools
- Pneumatic (Vacuum) excavation
- Manual pneumatic tools



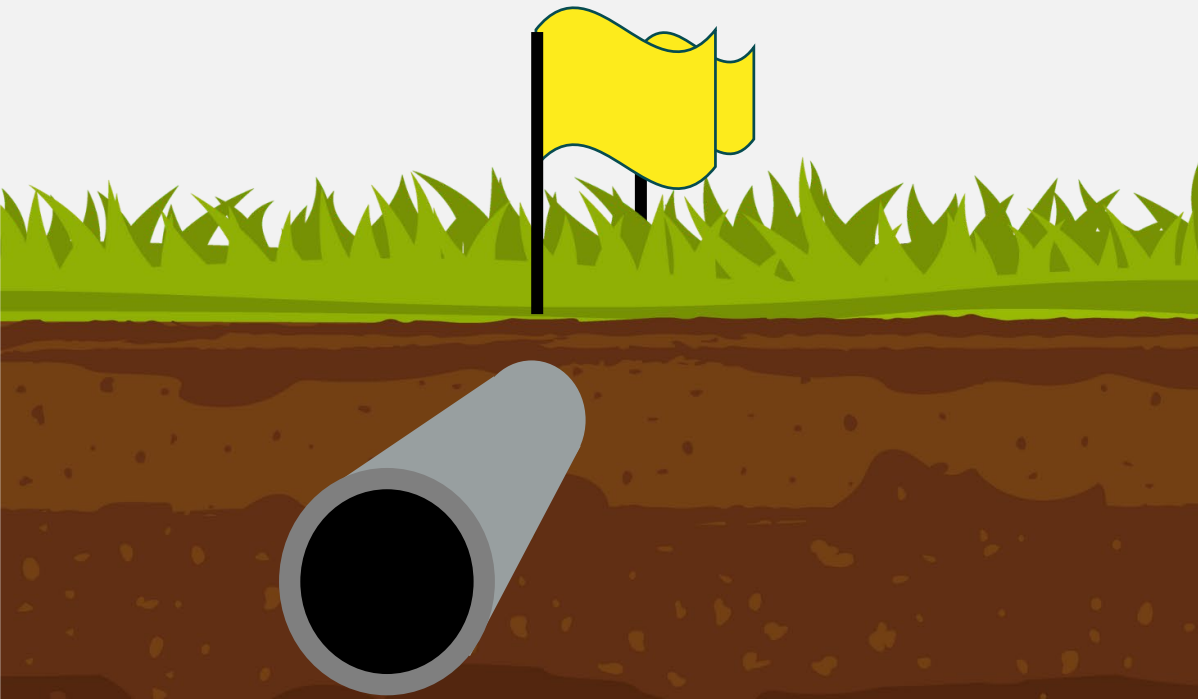
# Excavation Zones



# Excavation Zones

## Caution Zone

- Total Area: 8 ft.
- 4 ft. on either side of the markings
- Always start with soft excavation in this zone
  - You don't have to use soft excavation to dig up the entire Caution Zone. Start with the Approximate Location.
- After you expose the precise location of the facility, you can use power tools or equipment.





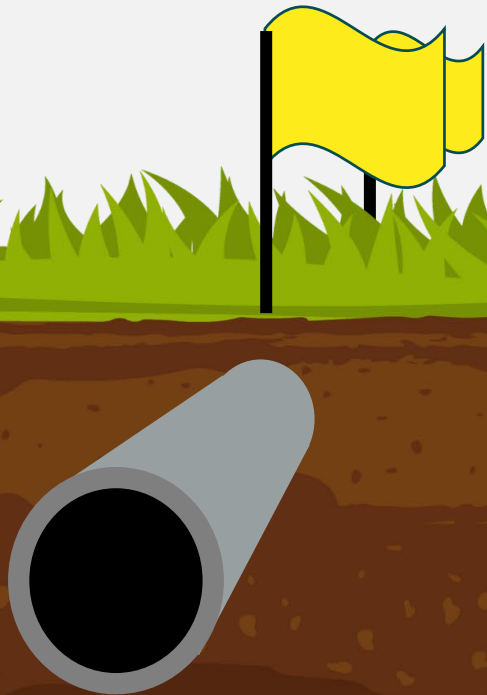




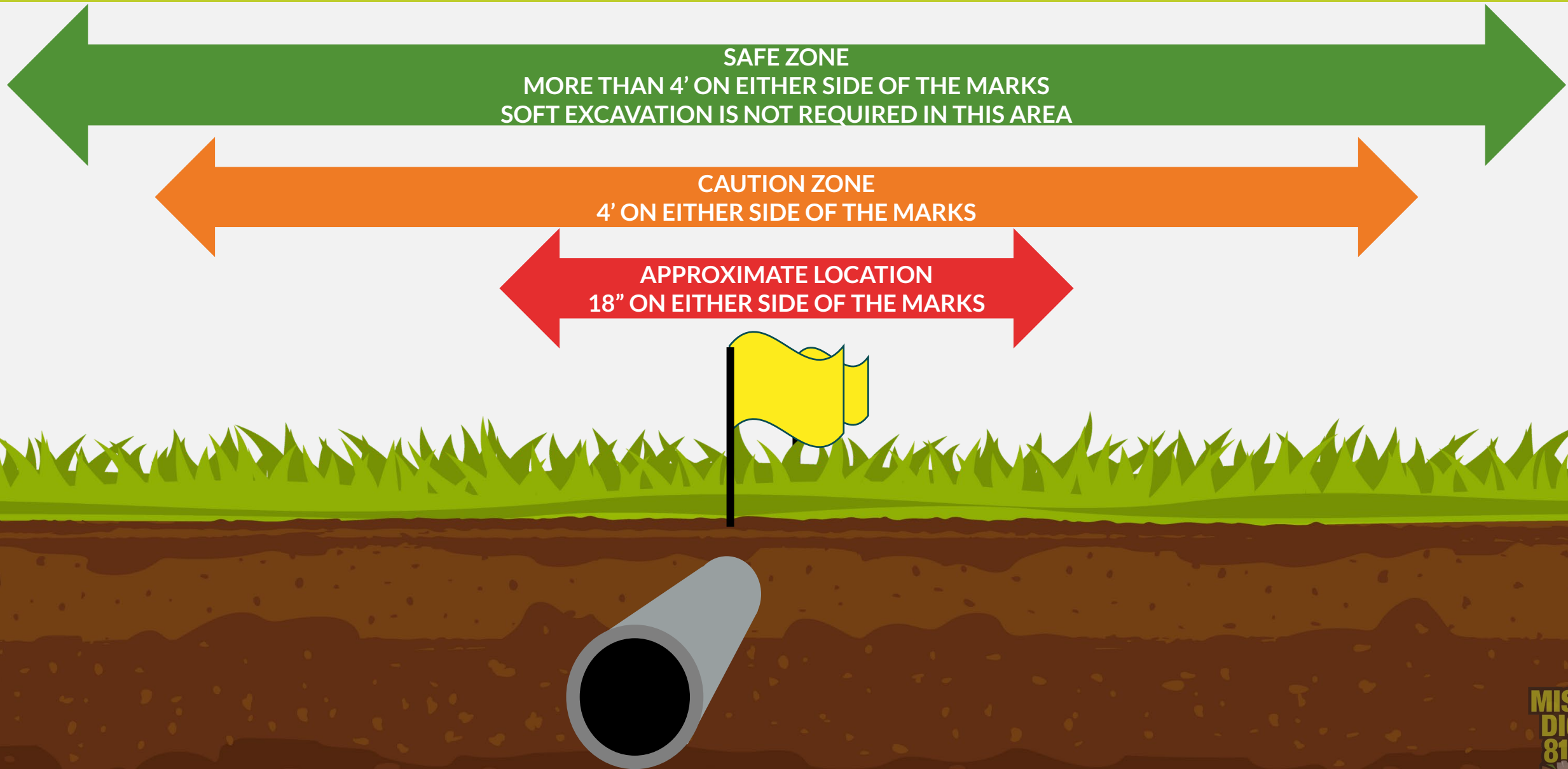
# Excavation Zones

## Safe Zone

- Area that is more than 4 feet away from either side of the marks.
- No hand digging is required.
  - An excavator can use power tools and equipment in this area.

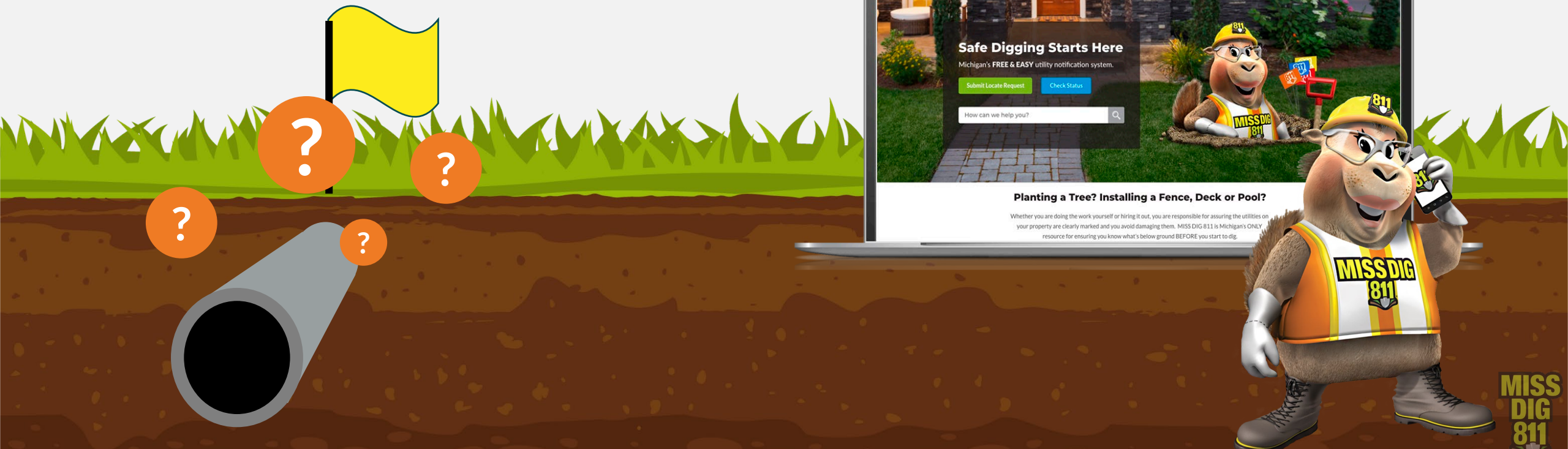


# Excavation Zones



# Additional Assistance

- If you cannot find the utility within the “Approximate Location”, contact MISS DIG 811 right away for “Additional Assistance”
- Be ready with information about which specific facilities are needed at the site.



# Knowledge Check

Match each definition with the correct zone.

**APPROXIMATE  
LOCATION**

**SAFE  
ZONE**

**CAUTION  
ZONE**

A strip of land extending 48 inches, or 4 feet from the utility marks

A strip of land extending 18 inches from each side of the marks

Any area on a job site that is beyond the Caution Zone



# Excavator Responsibility, per PA 174



- It is the excavator's responsibility to protect the facilities once they have been physically exposed.
- Trench walls should be sloped/shored/benched to prevent collapse



# Successful Excavation Projects

The requirements of Public Act 174 for excavators and facility owners have been put in place to eliminate or reduce the number of facility damages that occur in Michigan each year:

- Using MISS DIG 811
- Timely and accurate locating
- Soft Excavation



# Accidents and Damages

## Accidents DO happen



## Damages DO occur



# Gas Safety



- The smell associated with natural gas is a good indicator of a gas leak:
  - Mercaptan is added by the gas provider as a way of creating the familiar and recognizable smell of sulfur/rotten eggs to invisible gas.
  - Lack of smell does not mean the absence of gas.
  - Excess flow valves help **slow** the flow of gas in the event of a severed gas line.



# Gas Safety

# Gas Safety

1



## ASPHYXIATION

Natural gas on its own is non-toxic, colorless, tasteless, and odorless.

It does, however, displace oxygen, so anyone caught in a confined space filled with natural gas could ultimately risk suffocation.

# Gas Safety

1



## ASPHYXIATION

Natural gas on its own is non-toxic, colorless, tasteless, and odorless.

It does, however, displace oxygen, so anyone caught in a confined space filled with natural gas could ultimately risk suffocation.

2



## EXPLOSION

A buildup of gas that is suddenly ignited may also explode creating a hazard for individuals not in the vicinity of the gas leak itself.

Gas underground will migrate towards the path of least resistance and can find itself into other buildings, homes, and even other facilities.

# Gas Safety

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## ASPHYXIATION

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## EXPLOSION

A buildup of gas that is suddenly ignited may also explode creating a hazard for individuals not in the vicinity of the gas leak itself.

Gas underground will migrate towards the path of least resistance and can find itself into other buildings, homes, and even other facilities.

3



## FIRE

Flammable range of natural gas is 5% - 15% gas : air mixture with an ignition source.

<4% - too lean to burn

>15% - too rich to burn

Since natural gas is lighter than air, the flame will burn upward into the atmosphere.





Why should I contact  
**MISSDIG811?**











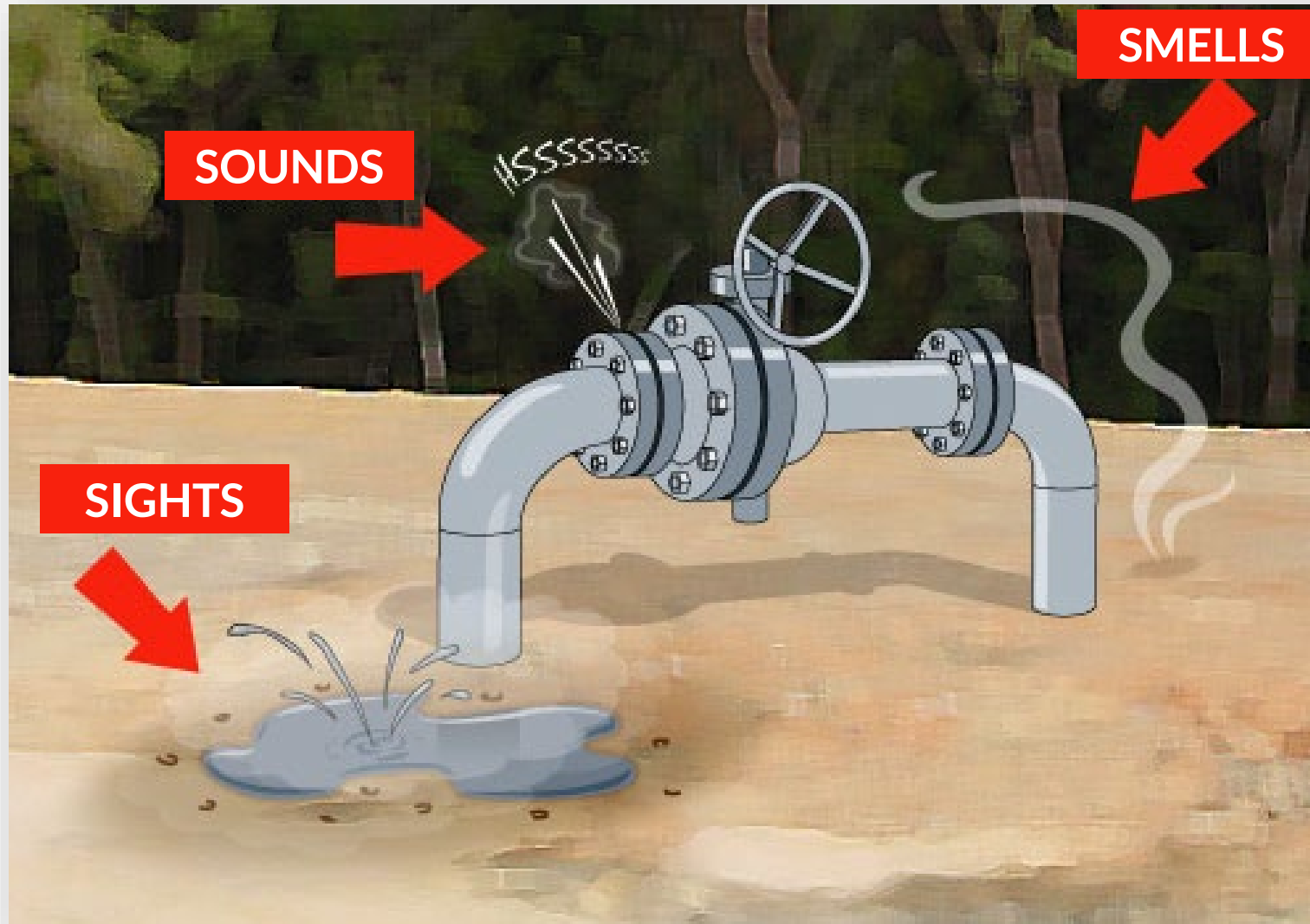
# Contact with Gas Lines

- **If digging equipment makes contact and damages a gas line:**
  - Call 911
  - Do not attempt to restart machine if motor stalls
  - Turn off motor and abandon equipment
  - Do not cover damaged line with dirt
  - Do not crimp gas facilities or connectors
  - Do not plug damaged lines
  - Allow ignited natural and petroleum gas to burn
  - Notify pipeline owner





# Signs of a Gas Leak



- All individuals, from excavator to property owner, should familiarize themselves with the following signs of a gas leak:
  - Rotten egg or sulfur smell
  - Blowing or hissing noises
  - Brown patches in vegetation
  - Dry spots in moist earth
  - Blowing dust
  - Bubbling mud or water
  - Fire burning out of the ground



07/10/2018 19:04:12  
L R





DANE COUNTY

## Barr sued over delinquent loan of tavern destroyed in July 10 blast

By Jennifer Fetterly [jfetterly@hngnews.com](mailto:jfetterly@hngnews.com) Apr 19, 2019 Updated Apr 22, 2019







## UPDATE: Escanaba natural gas leak caused by third-party construction crew



An Escanaba Public Safety SUV blocks traffic on North Lincoln Road, May 16, 2023, while a natural gas leak was investigated. (WLUC/Grace Blair)





# Overhead Safety

# Dearborn Gas Leak: 6-29-2020





# Electric Safety

The potential hazard of working near energized electric lines on an excavation site come both from above and below the surface.

## **AVOID CONTACT WITH OVERHEAD LINES**

- Ensure a minimum 10 feet clearance from any overhead line with equipment used at the job site.
  - Safe clearance distance increases as line voltage increases.
  - Use a spotter when working near power lines.
  - Excavators should reach out to the local power company if they will have difficulty maintaining a safe clearance.



# Safety Tips for Overhead Lines

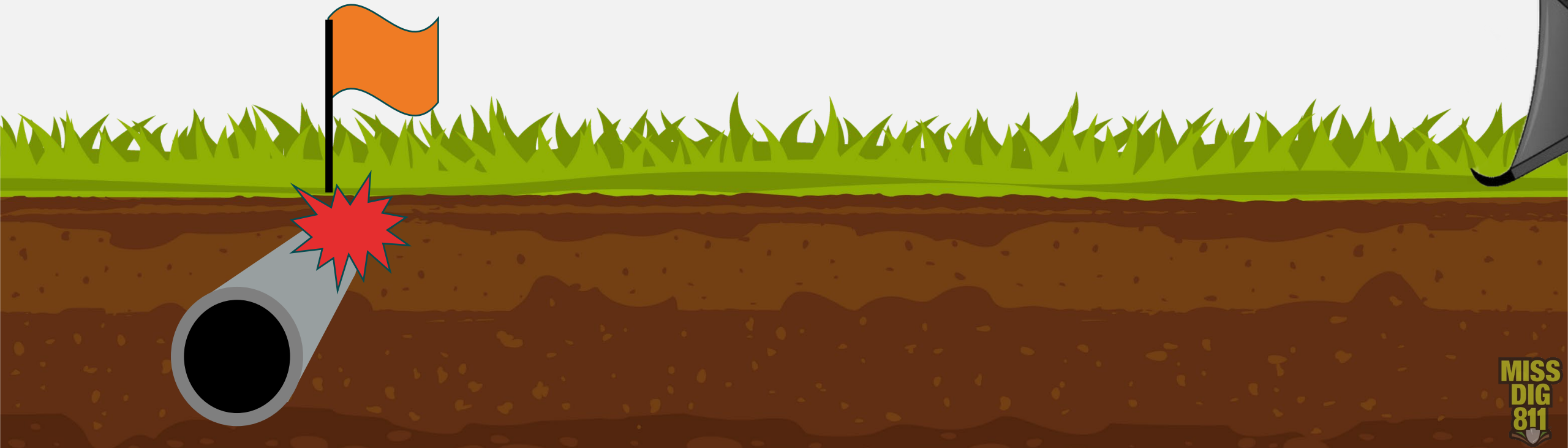
- Use a spotter within 25 feet of power lines
- Avoid getting close to lines when moving equipment or materials
- Carry ladders horizontally
- Don't raise ladders, poles or pipes near power lines
- Stay clear of power lines when installing or removing antennas or towers
- Don't climb poles, towers, or trees close to power lines

# Contact with Energized Lines

- **Objects in contact with energized lines become energized themselves.**
- If contact is made with an overhead line, or equipment contacts a buried electric line, crew members (other than the equipment operator) should stay clear and not approach.
- If possible, the operator should remain in the cab of the equipment
- Do not move the equipment or material
- If an electric line of any kind is contacted, immediately call **9-1-1** and then contact the local power company

# Struck Communications Line

- When a communication line is struck, there may not be any physical harm, but the impact a damage can have to an excavation project is serious.
  - Downtime in the project for repairs
  - Repairs to communication lines can be costly
  - Potential impact to the ability to reach emergency responders





# When Damage Occurs

- **Every excavator should treat all lines as live and active.**
- If a contact is made with a line or facility:
  - Stop excavation
  - Facility owner must be contacted immediately
  - If there is a threat to life, health, property or material leakage call **9-1-1** first
- Public Act 174 requires immediate contact to the facility owner even if a small tracer wire near buried plastic facilities is severed

# Minor Dents or Incidents

- MISS DIG 811 member facility owners will often work with excavators, and not bill for repairs when minor dents, scratches, or other minor incidents occur.
- Having the opportunity to address the situation immediately, while the hole or trench is still open is appreciated.

# Failure to Notify



Per Public Act 174, anyone who knowingly damages an underground facility and fails to promptly notify the owner/operator or knowingly damages an underground facility and then attempts to conceal that damage, can be subject to a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000.00 and a year in prison.

# Knowledge Check

Every excavator should treat all lines as live and active, including abandoned lines.

Regardless of the types of buried (or overhead) facilities on a site, every excavator should treat all lines as live and active.





# Knowledge Check

If your digging equipment makes contact with a gas line, what should you do?

A. Turn off the motor and abandon equipment

B. Cover damaged line

C. Allow ignited gas to burn

D. Notify pipeline owner

E. Call 9-1-1

- **If digging equipment makes contact and damages a gas line:**
  - Call 911
  - Do not attempt to restart machine if motor stalls
  - Turn off motor and abandon equipment
  - Do not cover damaged line with dirt
  - Do not crimp gas facilities or connectors
  - Do not plug damaged lines
  - Allow ignited natural and petroleum gas to burn
  - Notify pipeline owner



# **MPSC Enforcement and Penalties**

# Public Act 174 & MPSC

- Public Act 174 requirements are enforced by the Michigan Public Service Commission
- The Commission will take on enforcement activity if notified of violations through their online portal ([michigan.gov/mpsc](http://michigan.gov/mpsc))



# Penalties



- Any party, excavator, or facility owner can file a complaint if they feel that they have suffered a damage due to the non-compliance of another party.
- The MPSC requires that some sort of conflict resolution take place between the parties prior to their involvement
- MPSC will investigate the claims and can take punitive action against any Michigan stakeholder in violation of Public Act 174
- Penalties can be as high as \$5,000.00 per violation



# Penalties for Government Agencies

The MPSC employs a tiered penalty approach for excavation violations by government agencies.

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The MPSC employs a tiered penalty approach for excavation violations by government agencies.

1



If a government agency engages in an activity that violates the requirements of Public Law 174, the MPSC can fine the community up to \$5,000 for its first violation.

# Penalties for Government Agencies

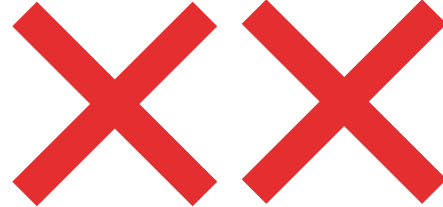
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1



If a government agency engages in an activity that violates the requirements of Public Law 174, the MPSC can fine the community up to \$5,000 for its first violation.

2



If a second violation occurs within a 12-month period, the fine may increase to \$10,000 and safety training may be required for staff.

# Penalties for Government Agencies

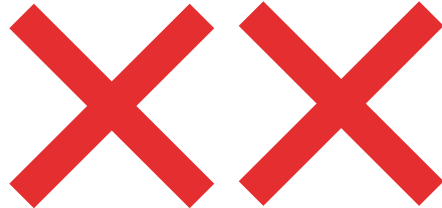
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If a government agency engages in an activity that violates the requirements of Public Law 174, the MPSC can fine the community up to \$5,000 for its first violation.

2



If a second violation occurs within a 12-month period, the fine may increase to \$10,000 and safety training may be required for staff.

3



If a third violation occurs within a 12-month period, the government agency could face fines of up to \$15,000 and could also lose any government immunity invoked to avoid payment of claims for repair of damage to the facilities.





# MPSC Contact Requirements

- The Michigan Public Service Commission requires that all facility owner/operators collect information surrounding each contact or damage to their buried infrastructure and provide a report to the Commission on a quarterly basis.
- More information can be found regarding this damage reporting requirement at [michigan.gov/mpsc](http://michigan.gov/mpsc)



# Knowledge Check

Any Party, excavator, or facility owner can file a complaint if they feel that they have suffered damage due to the non-compliance of another party.

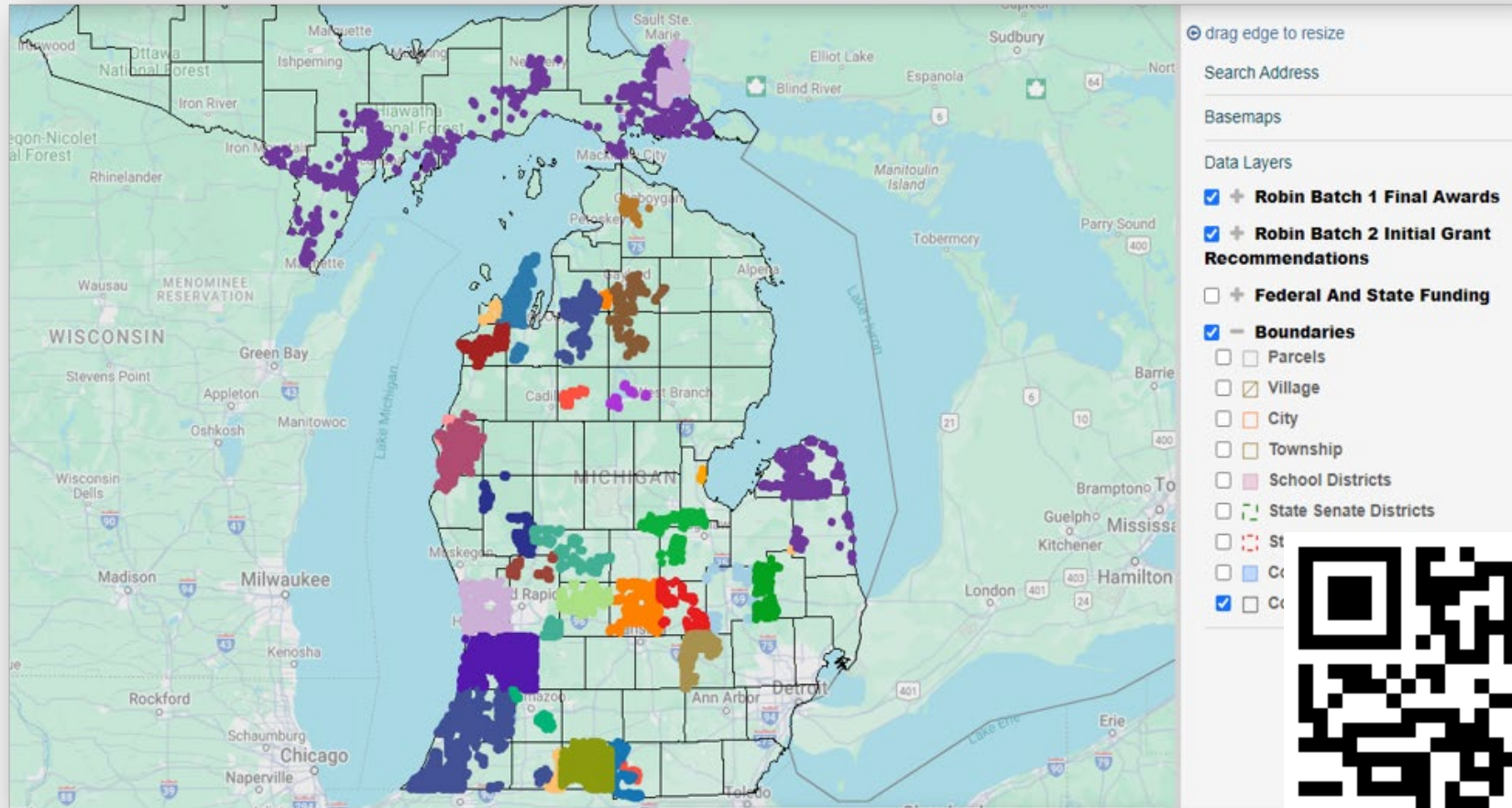
Any party, excavator, or facility owner alike , can file a complaint if they feel that they have suffered damage due to the non-compliance of another party. The MPSC requires that some sort of conflict resolution take place between the parties prior to their involvement, but if that has happened, the commission will investigate the claims in the complaint, and can take punitive action against any Michigan stakeholder in violation of Public Act 174

YES

NO

# Fiber Projects

[misssdig.info/fiber-map](https://misssdig.info/fiber-map)







**Questions?**

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