



Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia
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Press Release

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DCPSC Celebrates the 10th Anniversary of National Safe Digging Month

Washington, D.C. – Today the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) recognizes the tenth anniversary of National Safe Digging Month, reminding District residents to always call 811 two working days before any digging project. Mayor Muriel Bowser officially proclaimed April to be Safe Digging Month in the District of Columbia.

When calling 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to the District One Call Center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of the intent to dig. Professional locators are then sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, paint or both. Every six minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811.

“As April marks the traditional start of digging season, we are using this month to strongly encourage individuals and companies to call 811 before they begin digging,” said Dr. Udeozo Ogbue, Chief of the Commission’s Office of Compliance and Enforcement. “By calling 811 to have the underground utility lines in their area marked, homeowners and professionals are making an important decision that can help keep them and their communities safe and connected.”

“We are also excited about our staff promoting Safe Digging Month by encouraging everyone to dial 811 before digging,” said Commission Chairman, Betty Ann Kane. “Throughout April, the Commission is promoting Safe Digging Month at community outreach events as well as through social media.”

The Commission encourages District residents to visit www.dcpssc.org/Dial811 or www.call811.com for more information about digging safely.

The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia is an independent agency established by Congress in 1913 to regulate electric, natural gas, and telecommunications companies in the District of Columbia.

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