



Prior Notice of Planned Excavation Activities

Over the years, Alabama 811 has done a good job of educating excavators on the requirement of a minimum of two working day notice to have underground facilities located. What we haven't seemed to do as well is ensuring that excavators know that the law **actually** provides for a window for notice of 2-10 working days, not counting the day of notification. If the excavation is not intended to start within the minimum two day notice, the date closer to the start of excavation, within a 10 day window, can be provided.

On average, Alabama 811 processes nearly 2,400 locate requests per day. The majority of these are requested to be marked within the two working day period. Also included in these are emergency or short notice requests that may need to be worked sooner than the scheduled period of two working days. If you also factor in any weather conditions that may impact the ability for the facilities to mark their facilities, this can cause additional backlog which impacts other days moving forward.

As the increase in excavation activity continues to rise, it may be beneficial to provide the actual work date closer to the expected start of excavation instead of relying on the minimum two working day notice.

In a brief study Alabama 811 has conducted over the last few months, we have found, through monitoring the positive response data, that those locate requests that provide more than the two working days appear to more consistently be marked relative to the proposed start of work date.

Want to give it a try???



Membership Growth

The state law change that provided for a phased in approach for membership marked January 1, 2022 as the deadline for the third tier of membership to join Alabama 811 as part of the State's damage prevention program. There were over 65 new members activated the first of January 2022 with nearly 50 activated during 2021.



Our current member list is updated each month on our website and available for download in pdf format. Click [here](#) to see current membership.

Large Projects - What Is The Best Fix?

What is a project? Is it based on the distance that is being covered? Is it based on the amount of congestion of facilities at the excavation site area? Is it based on density of population in the area being worked? Is it based on the type of work being conducted? Or is best to be considered a combination of these?

Why are large projects a concern in damage prevention? Large projects can be an issue with both the number of initial and updated locate requests at a particular site and the need to have marks updated routinely. In addition, being able to ensure adequate time is allowed to properly mark underground facilities at a job that may include several facilities at the site or due to the physical distance needed to be marked to cover the length of the job.

Alabama Damage Prevention Alliance (ADPA) which is a group of damage prevention stakeholders, has established a task team to look at ways to establish a process for large projects. Pilot programs have been conducted to isolate key elements and proper communication always lands as the most important criteria. The task team has developed a draft to determine what type of work, as defined on the locate requests, should be allocated to a project. A process has also been drafted on how to accommodate project meetings to establish locating schedules to accommodate the needs of the excavators on the ongoing project.

If you are interested in working with the ADPA or the task team, please contact Annette Bowman at abowman@al811.com

First Year of Active Enforcement Completed

Alabama's new damage prevention enforcement, Alabama Underground Damage Prevention Authority (ALUDPA) has completed its first year of operation. During this first year, over 140 alleged violations were filed with the Authority. The Authority's Executive Committee meet and heard the filed complaints for the first three quarters of 2021. The following chart shows the breakdown for each

quarter.

Any complaints, whether for informational purposes only or to be reviewed for penalty action, can be filed at www.aludpa.org. If you are filing a complaint, or responding to a complaint here are a few tips:

- Be specific and detailed in the complaint information
- Provide documentation such as photographs, work documents, etc. to support your complaint or response.
- Do not use this as a “venting” process. It needs to be specific to the violation submitted.
- This resource is for violations of the state law only. It does not process through Alabama 811 relative to having utilities locate, dispute any billing claim, etc.

Dashboard Data	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr
Violations Filed for Penalty Review	7	27	65
Violations with Penalty Action	4	17	31
Violations Dismissed	2	4	9
Violations Pending Further Review	0	0	19
Violations Filed by Stakeholder Group			
Excavator	4	0	20
Facility Owner	1	19	40
Homeowner	1	2	3
Violations Reporting a Damage	2	20	40

