

Ted J. Thomas
Chairman
(501) 682-5806

Elana C. Wills
Commissioner
(501) 682-5809

Kimberly A. O'Guinn
Commissioner
(501) 682-5809

**ARKANSAS
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITIES DIVISION
1000 Center Street
P.O. Box 400
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0400
<http://www.Arkansas.gov/psc>**



John P. Bethel
Director
(501) 682-1794

News Release

Dated: April 18, 2017

Arkansas Public Service Commission Announces National Safe Digging Month

The Arkansas Public Service Commission announces that April has been designated as "National Safe Digging Month." Governor Asa Hutchinson issued a proclamation on April 18, 2017 recognizing April as National Safe Digging Month in Arkansas. This designation acknowledges the significance of calling 811 before you dig. Along with the Governor, the Arkansas Public Service Commission's Pipeline Safety Office, Arkansas One Call, and the Common Ground Alliance encourage excavators and homeowners to always call 811 before digging to prevent unintended consequences such as service interruption, environmental damage, personal injury, and even death. In addition to dialing 811, customers can also contact Arkansas One Call at 800-482-8998.

The National Safe Digging Month campaign is intended to increase awareness of the national call-before-you-dig number, 811, in order to prevent damage to underground utility facilities. Dialing 811 provides a simple means to contact the Arkansas One Call Center to request utility line locations at the intended dig site. Through education about safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money by calling 811 in advance of any digging project; waiting the required amount of time; respecting the marked lines; and digging with care around the marks.

For any questions concerning this release, please contact John P. Bethel, Executive Director, at 501-682-1794.

###