

From the City of Ellensburg Natural Gas Division

April is National Safe Digging Month



Call Before You Dig!

With Spring in the air and summer rapidly approaching a lot of us will be enjoying the sun in our yards while planting flowers, installing new fences, or landscaping our property. While you are doing these activities, the City of Ellensburg Natural Gas Division would like to remind you to be aware of the buried gas lines running across your yard. Many of these lines are plastic and can be cut with a shovel.

REMEMBER:
Before You Dig call
1-800-424-5555 or 811

to request buried utility line locates. Your Gas Division will then come out and mark the gas line location with yellow paint.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

This public safety message is part of the City of Ellensburg Gas Division's Damage Prevention Program.

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811 Consumer Fact Sheet



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Call before you dig.

What is 811?

811 is the national number designated by the Federal Communications Commission to help protect homeowners and professional excavators from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects – large and small.

Why call 811?

Every digging project requires a call to 811. Hitting an underground utility line while digging can harm the environment, cause serious personal injuries, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially incur fines and repair costs.

When should I call 811?*

- Installing a rural mailbox
- Putting in a fence
- Planting trees or shrubbery
- Building a patio or deck
- Excavating a new garden area

* These are a few common examples of when to call. You or your contractor should call at least 2 business days before any digging project.

How does 811 work?

- One easy phone call to 811, at least 2 business days prior to digging, starts the process of getting your underground utility lines marked for free.
- When you call 811 from anywhere in the country, a representative from your local one-call center will answer your call. Local one call center representative will ask you for the location and description of your digging job, and will notify affected utility companies, who will then send a professional locator to the proposed dig site to mark the approximate location of your lines within a few days of your call.
- Once your underground lines have been marked, you will know the approximate location of your utility lines and can dig safely.
- Please visit www.call811.com, in the “state specific” area of the website, for more information about the one call center in your area.

What happens if I don't call?

- Approximately 165,000 underground utilities are damaged each year by digging.
- One out of every three incidents is caused by someone who did not call 811 before digging.
- Knowing approximately where underground utility lines are buried before each digging project helps to prevent these situations.
- January 2013 the law changes and someone can report you to the Utilities Transportation Commission.