



National Safe Digging Day

WHEREAS, every few minutes an underground utility line is damaged by a poorly planned digging or excavation project. Fortunately, there is a free, safe and easy way to avoid those damages – Call 811 before you dig. August 11 (8/11) serves as an annual reminder for residents and professional excavators to contact 811 and have underground utility-owned lines marked before beginning any digging project. When calling 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to a local call center that notifies utility companies of the intent to dig. Professional locators then arrive at the digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground utility-owned lines with flags, spray paint, or both; and

WHEREAS, by calling 811 you protect yourself, your family and your community. Striking a single natural gas pipeline line can lead to injury, repair costs, inconvenient outages, and fines. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants contacting 811 by phone or online. It's free. It's safe. And it's required by law; and

WHEREAS, on Aug. 11 and throughout the year, Atmos Energy reminds homeowners and professional contractors to use the free 811 service before digging to reduce the risk of striking an underground utility line. Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree, and laying a patio are just some examples of digging projects that require a free 811 request at least a few days before breaking ground; and

WHEREAS, the depth of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects, and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked, because even when digging only a few inches or digging in a location that's previously been marked, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists; and

WHEREAS, all parties agree that safe digging is a shared responsibility. To know what's below, call 811 before you dig.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Gates, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Greeley, do hereby proclaim August 11, 2022, as National Safe Digging Day in the City of Greeley.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Greeley, Colorado, this 16th day of August 2022.

John Gates
Mayor