

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** it is legally required by the State of West Virginia to call 811 before digging; and
- Whereas,** unintentional damage is caused to the nation's underground utility infrastructure by the failure to call 811 to locate underground facilities prior to digging; and
- Whereas,** calling 811 can save lives, prevent damage to the underground utility infrastructure, protect public and personal property, and preserve the environment; and
- Whereas,** the national Call-Before-You-Dig number, 811, is promoted by Common Ground Alliance and its nearly 1,800 members in an effort to reduce these damages; and
- Whereas,** designated by the Federal Communications Commission in 2005, the 811 program has provided utilities excavators and homeowners a simple number to reach their local One Call Center to request the free location of buried utility facilities at the intended dig site; and
- Whereas,** as utility owners, excavators, designers, and homeowners can save time and money and can keep our nation safe and connected through education about safe digging practices, including calling 811 two business days before beginning any digging project; waiting the required amount of time; respecting the marked lines by maintaining visual definition throughout the course of the excavation; and digging with care around the marks.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 2023* as:

Safe Digging Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to always call 811 before digging.

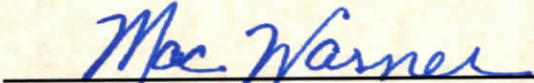
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First Day of March, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth Year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State