



**TxDOT ROW**

**UTILITY WEEK**

*THE POWER OF YOU - Delivering Right-Of-Way Solutions to Texas*

# Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety

Texas811

Day 3 – 10:00am-10:40am

12/14/2023





Tina Sanders has been involved in underground utility damage prevention for over eight years, and within in the education, quality control and safety industry for nearly twenty-five years. Along with working as a Damage Prevention Manager for Texas811, she also serves as the Texas811 Representative for five separate DPC Chapters, is a member of several Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) and is an active member of the Leading Women of Damage Prevention. She serves on both the National and Regional NUCA Safety Committees, TSTCI Planning Committee and the Damage Prevention Council of Texas Board of Directors.

Tina provides industry outreach and educational damage prevention/safe excavation training to contractors, facility operators and municipalities in over fifty counties across Texas. Tina's trainings include, OSHA 30 Construction, Occupational Safety and Health Technician, H2S "Competent Person" (ANNSI/ASSE 2017 Z390.1), Excavation and Trenching Safety "Competent Person" (29 CFR 1926.600-652), Reasonable Suspicion Training, Job Site Inspections, Incident/Accident Investigations, Root Cause Analysis Training, and is a PEC certified trainer for the Railroad Commission's Pipeline Damage Prevention Training Program.



# EXCAVATION SAFETY TRAINING

Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety

Tina Sanders  
Damage Prevention Manager



# What Will Be Covered

- **811 – One Call Process**
- **Texas Excavation Laws**
- **Excavation Best Practices**
- **Documentation/Photos**
- **Emergency Preparedness**



# Reference Documents

- **Texas Utilities Code Title 5 Chapter 251**
  - Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety
  - Effective 1999
  - Establishes the One call system and addresses all Utilities and Pipelines
- **Texas Administrative Code Title 16 Chapter 18**
  - Underground Pipeline Damage Prevention
  - Effective 2007
  - Specific to Gas Distribution and Gas & Hazardous Liquids Pipelines
- **Common Ground Alliance**
  - Best Practices
  - Established 1999
- **OSHA Title 29 CFR**
  - 1926.651 (b) Specific Excavation Requirements

# Texas811

## Our Purpose:

**To protect billions of dollars in underground infrastructure and keep the public safe.**

- EVERY 'one call' locate ticket submitted in Texas originates with Texas811.
- Texas811 averages 19-21k locate tickets submitted per day. Over 4,000,000 tickets per year.
- All Class A Facilities are required by laws to be registered with one call (Class B is voluntary)
- Texas811 is the link between your plans to dig and our member utility companies.
- There is no cost for making the call to Texas811. (48 Hour waiting period required)
- Texas811 also provides excavation education to excavators, emergency responders and the general public.



# Excavation: Defined By The Law

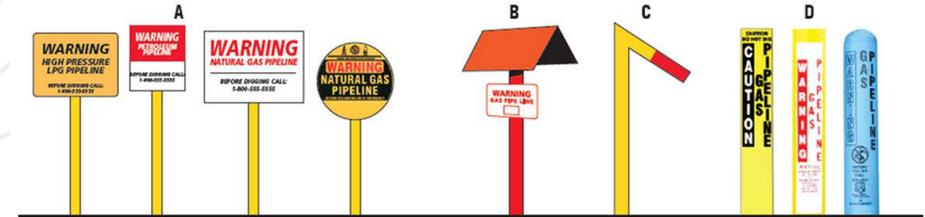


**Excavate:** Movement of earth by any means

**Excavator:** A person that engages in or is preparing to engage in the movement of earth

# Before Excavation Beings

- Plan Ahead
- Do a Worksite Assessment
- Communicate with:
  - Office Personnel
  - Field Crews
- Gather Worksite Information:
  - Location
  - Driving Instruction
  - Marking Instructions
  - Type of Work
  - Onsite Employee Contact Information
- White-line Proposed Worksite

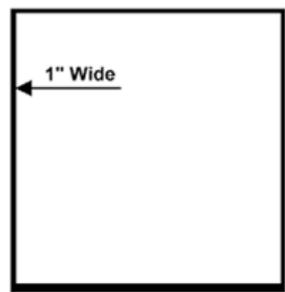


A. Located near roads, railroads and along the pipeline ROWs  
B. Marker for pipeline patrol plane C. Pipeline casing vent D. Painted metal or plastic posts

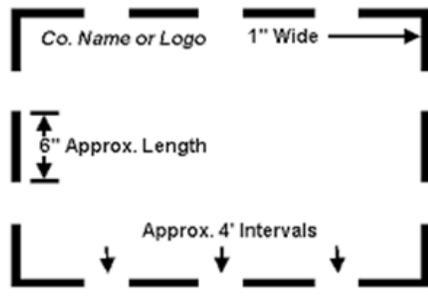


# White Lining

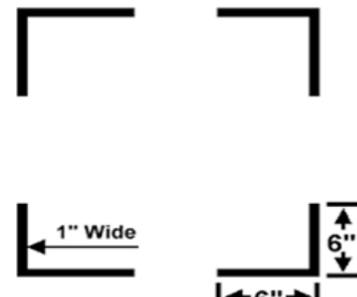
Excavator's designation of area to be excavated using white paint, white flags, white stakes, or any combination of these.



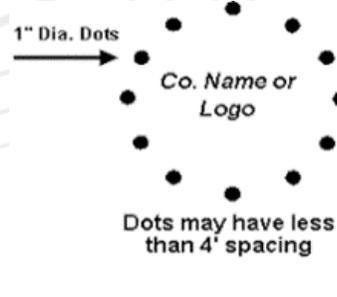
Full Line Marking



Dash Line Marking



Four Corner Marking



Radius or Arc Marking



# Texas811 One Call Process Notification Center



**CALL 811 OR 800-344-8377**



**CLICK THE PORTAL**  
[WWW.TEXAS811.ORG](http://WWW.TEXAS811.ORG)



# Ticket Types

## **Normal**

Wait 48 hours prior to digging (Excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays)

## **Emergency**

A situation that endangers life, health, or property or a situation in which the public need for uninterrupted services or immediate re-establishment of services compels immediate action.

**RULE §18.6 (b)** – Pipeline Operator markings are valid until the emergency condition has ceased to exist

## **No Response**

When one or more utilities have failed to respond after the 48 hours required wait time  
(Excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays)

## **Update**

To keep the life of the ticket valid. Scope of ticket does not change  
Wait 48 hours (Excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays)

## **Update & Remark**

To keep the life of the ticket valid. Scope of ticket does not change. Marks are no longer visible and must be remarked.  
Wait 48 hours (Excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays)

## **Dig Up**

Notice of damage

**RULE §18.11 (b)** requires a Dig Up ticket



# Once the Locate Ticket is Submitted...What to Expect Next

## What to expect once you have submitted a locate ticket

A confirmation ticket number by phone and by email (48 hrs. Starts)

- Verify the information on the ticket matches the information for your job
  - All contact information
  - Driving Directions
  - Marking instructions
- Communicate to all excavators working at the site:
  - Have access to the complete one call ticket
  - Are clear on the scope of work
  - Can produce the one call locate ticket within 1 hr. if asked

**You should be notified by the utility operator or the locator within 48 hours:**

- Clear it; or
- Mark it; or
- Arrange for a meeting or communicate any special instructions



Take a Moment to Verify All Information



# After 2 Working Days

- **Perform a Second Site Assessment After the 48 hrs.**
  - **Use a Pre-Excavation Check List**
  - **Look for:**
    - Inconsistencies (White-Lines/Ticket Verbiage)
    - Additional Signage:
      - Call back into Texas811 to force add any utilities not listed but there is evidence of other underground facilities
  - **Locate markings**
    - Confirm all utilities have responded
      - Paint/Flags
      - Clear/No Conflict
      - If one or more facilities have failed to respond:
        - Submit a No Response
  - **Remember Paint and Flags are Approximations**



*American Public Works Association*

White	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
Fluorescent Pink	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
Red	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
Yellow	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
Orange	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLES OR CONDUIT
Blue	POTABLE WATER
Purple	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
Green	SEWERS AND DRAIN LINES

Most properties have unmarked private utility lines, but they present a real danger for anyone digging. It's important to have all lines located and marked. These are just a few examples of underground utilities that might be hidden on your property.

- Electricity for exterior lighting
- Propane lines
- Septic pipes
- Sprinkler systems
- Gas for heated pools
- Power for a detached garage
- Storm drains



## What Constitutes A Customer Owned Line

# Documentation and Photos

- **Photos**

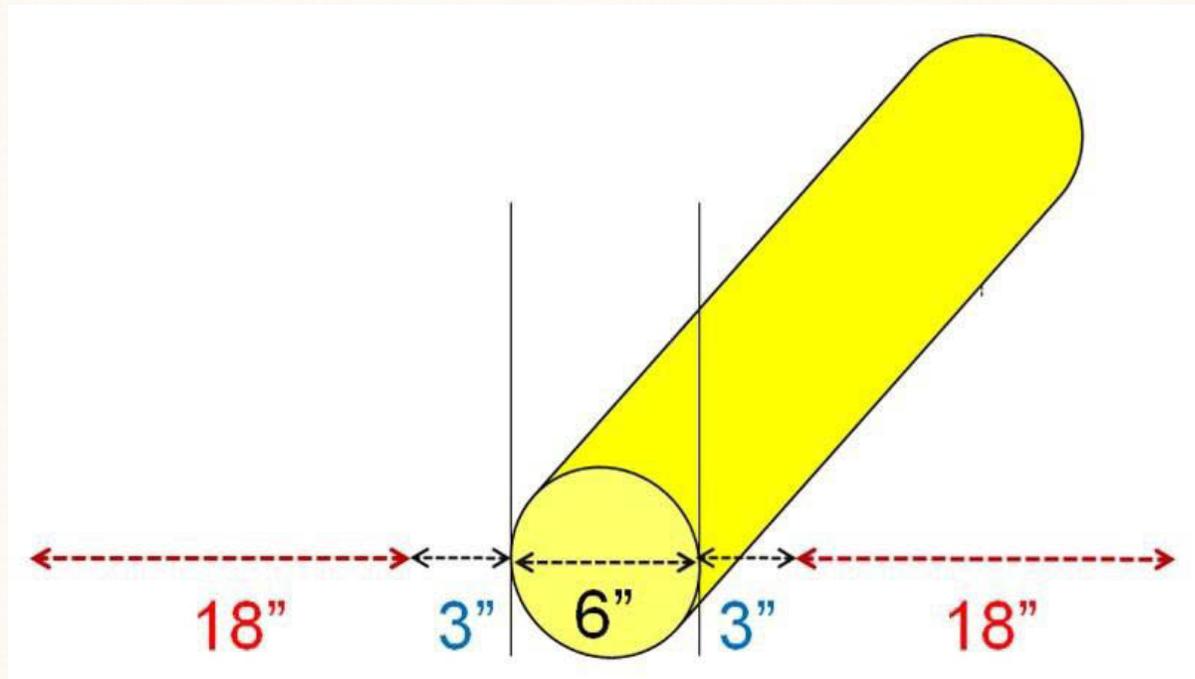
- Use Hit Kits for Pre-Dig Photos
- Take from different directions
  - N,NE,SE, S, SW, NW
  - 12 o'clock, 3 o'clock, 6 o'clock and 9 o'clock
  - 50'/20'/10'/5'
- Include stationary items
- Include the flags and marks
- Show the locate marks in reference to the white-lined proposed excavation site
- Time/Date Stamp
- If possible, include GPS coordinates on photos



# Tolerance Zone

Half the nominal diameter of the underground pipeline plus a minimum of 18 inches on either side of the outside edge of the underground pipeline on a horizontal plane.

Utility Pothole or Daylight to expose underground facilities.



Utility Pothole or Daylight to expose underground facilities

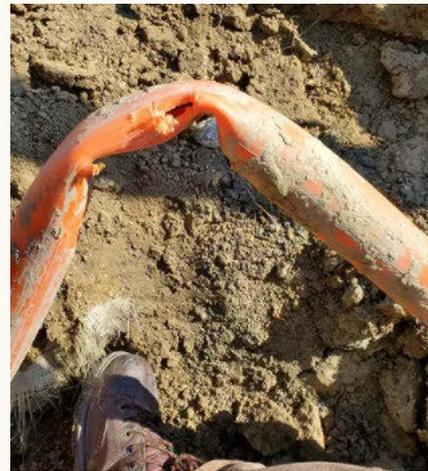


Utility Pothole or Daylight to expose underground facilities



## In Case of a Damage

- Contact the facility owner directly (if known)
- Call 811 to report the "Dig Up" within 1 hour
- Do not attempt to repair any pipeline or cable
- Do not backfill the area around the damaged line



# If Gas or Hazardous Liquids are Released...

## Do This:

- Stop Work Immediately and Abandon Equipment in Place
- Stay Upwind/Uphill
- Keep Others Away from Area
- Eliminate Potential Ignition Sources
- Call 911 Immediately
- Call 811 within 1 hr. to Submit a DigUp Ticket
- File a Railroad Commission TDRF Report online within 30 Working Days

## Do Not:

- Attempt to Stop the Leak
- Drive into any Release of Product
- Operate any Pipeline Valves or Mechanisms
- Extinguish Any Fires
- Come into Contact with Escaping Product





## Damage Investigation

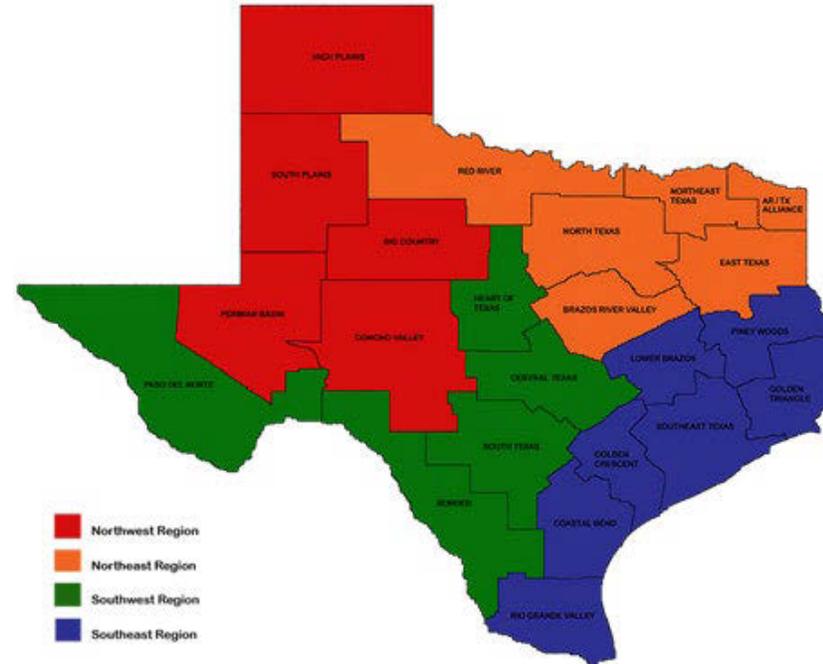
# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Question:** If all utilities on my one call locate ticket have responded prior to the 48<sup>th</sup> hour, may I begin to dig?
- **Question:** When does the 48<sup>th</sup> hour timeframe begin?
- **Question:** Will water and sewer lines be located and marked?
- **Question:** Do the marks and flags on the ground identify the exact location of the underground facility?
- **Question:** How long is my one call ticket valid?
- **Question:** What are the reporting requirements when an underground facility is damaged?

# Damage Prevention Council of Texas

## Our Mission

To facilitate underground utility & pipeline damage prevention, promote best practices, and contribute toward public safety and environmental protection through stakeholder education and communication.



[www.DPCofTexas.org](http://www.DPCofTexas.org)





**Tina Sanders**  
**Damage Prevention Manager**  
**(469) 595-1357**  
**[tinasanders@texas811.org](mailto:tinasanders@texas811.org)**





*Thank You!*