

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, April historically begins the season of construction, gardening, and digging for homeowners, landscapers, and construction companies; and

WHEREAS, each year, Alaska's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage; and

WHEREAS, designated in 2005 by the Federal Communications Commissions, 811 is the national call-before-you-dig number that helps protect homeowners, gardeners, landscapers, and contractors by providing a simple number to reach their One Call Center to request the marking of utility line locations at the intended dig site; and

WHEREAS, Alaskans can greatly reduce the risk of hitting a utility line, causing damage and personal injury, by placing a call to 811 two business days before digging, respecting the marked lines, and digging with care around the marked areas; and

WHEREAS, the rate at which Alaskans hit utility lines is three times greater than the national average. Local and statewide efforts are necessary to increase awareness of 811 and safe digging practices, prevention of damage to underground utility infrastructure, and ensuring public safety; and

WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as safe digging month in order to promote public awareness about the importance of calling 811 and digging safety.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as:

Safe Digging Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to always call 811 before digging and to use safe digging practices.

Dated: March 23, 2017



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker".

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*