PSC Reminds Residents to Practice Safe Digging on National 811 Day

TALLAHASSEE — This Sunday, August 11, is National Safe Digging Day (811 Day). Before beginning weekend and fall DIY projects, the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) reminds Florida residents that practicing safe digging is important.

"Breaking underground utility lines can result in steep fines, injuries, unexpected costs, and long project delays while repairs occur," Commissioner Gabriella Passidomo warns. "To eliminate the possibility of these consequences, the PSC strongly urges Florida residents to call 8-1-1 at least two days before breaking ground on any digging site."

Calling 811 or visiting <u>www.call811.com</u>, is the foremost preventive measure in excavation safety and damage prevention. The PSC recommends residents and contractors plan ahead and call 811 at least two days prior to any project that requires digging, excavation, or driving materials--like fence posts--into the ground.

Your Florida 811 call connects you to Sunshine 811. Their operators notify your local utilities that send locators to your dig site to mark the approximate location of buried lines with flags or paint.

View the PSC's call 8-1-1 public service announcement here.

About 811 Day

811 Day is an annual initiative led by the U.S. Department of Transportation's PHMSA to ensure the practice of safe digging in communities by calling 8-1-1, a nationwide toll-free number, before any excavation project. For more information on 811 Day, please visit <u>www.sunshine811.com</u>.

For additional information, visit <u>www.floridapsc.com</u>.

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