

PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Mississippi Public Service Commission Proclaims April as Safe Digging Month

JACKSON, MS (April 30, 2024)— The Mississippi Public Service Commission officially declared the month of April as Safe Digging Month. This [proclamation](#) aims to raise awareness about the importance of safe digging practices and to promote the prevention of damage to underground utilities.

“With the arrival of spring, many homeowners and contractors embark on various outdoor projects that involve digging,” Chairman Chris Brown said. “It is crucial to exercise caution and follow proper procedures to prevent accidental damage to underground infrastructure, such as gas pipelines, water lines, electric cables and telecommunications networks.”

“By designating April as Safe Digging Month, the Commission intends to educate individuals and businesses about the potential hazards associated with digging without proper knowledge or precautions,” Commissioner De'Keither Stamps said. “The PSC encourages all Mississippi residents to contact Mississippi 811, the state's one-call system, before undertaking any excavation work.”

Mississippi 811 is a free service that connects excavators with utility companies to ensure the safe and efficient completion of digging projects. By calling 811 or submitting an online request, individuals can notify utility operators of their intent to dig, allowing the necessary utility locators to mark the location of underground lines. This simple step can prevent accidents, injuries and costly repairs.

“The PSC reminds residents that failing to comply with safe digging practices can lead to serious consequences, including service disruptions, personal injury and financial liability,” Commissioner Wayne Carr said. “By promoting Safe Digging Month, we aim to reduce these risks and protect both individuals and the community as a whole.”

As wrap up Safe Digging Month, the Commission encourages residents to continue sharing this important message with their friends, neighbors and colleagues year-around. For more information about safe digging practices, please visit Mississippi 811's website at www.ms811.org.

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About the Mississippi Public Service Commission:

The Mississippi Public Service Commission is a regulatory agency responsible for overseeing the utility services provided to the residents of Mississippi. The Commission is dedicated to ensuring safe, reliable and affordable utility services for all Mississippians.