

Call before you dig.....
It's smart – and - It's the law.....

As the spring flowers begin to blossom, many homeowners frequently tackle projects that involve digging: planting trees or bushes, installing fence posts, anchoring supports for decks and swing sets, installing a mailbox, or removing tree roots. Don't believe for a moment that utility lines are buried too deep for you to hit them! Every digging job requires a call to 811 – from large-scale projects to smaller do-it-yourself (DIY) projects. There may be multiple utility lines in a single area, at varying depths. Digging without calling can disrupt vital services to an entire neighborhood, result in expensive fines and repair costs, and even cause bodily harm. It's safe. It's smart. It's your responsibility. It's the law!

By Law, everyone - including homeowners - must contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) before beginning any digging or breaking ground on their property by calling 1-800-362-2764 or 811, at least 48 hours but no more than 10 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays) - or enter it online with [e-dig](#), the easy online dig request for homeowners. OUPS will then request that the appropriate utilities (such as cable, TV, gas, electrical, water, sewer and phone companies) will mark the location of their buried lines. Paint, Flags or both will indicate the location of buried utilities. The color codes for locating utility lines are as follows:

RED	Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables
YELLOW	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum, or Gaseous Materials
ORANGE	Communications, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit
BLUE	Potable Water
PURPLE	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
GREEN	Sewers and Drain Lines
PINK	Temporary Survey Markings
WHITE	Proposed Excavation

Before the utilities come out, indicate the area where you intend to dig. Each utility company will then mark on the ground the location of any lines buried in the indicated area.

O.U.P.S operates 24 hours a day / 7 days a week, 365 days a year, answering calls from anyone who intends to dig in the state of Ohio.

To learn more visit the 811 call before you dig [website](#).

