



Excavator Pre-Dig Checklist

Planning Phase

- Call 811 or go on line (<https://kentucky811.org/submit-a-ticket/>) no less than 3 business days prior to excavation
- Contact Non-Member Utilities for locating services*
- Proposed excavation area has been marked in white paint and/or flags
- Onsite meeting scheduled with all high-profile facilities in locate area (gas/oil pipelines, high voltage cables, fiber optic, etc.)

*County Clerk's Office should provide a list of all Underground Facilities in the county.

On-Site

Complete a pre-excavation walkthrough of the entire jobsite, adjacent areas, and visually inspect for:

- WARNING signs, permanent utility markers, or other pipeline markers
- Old locate marks or flags
- Identify all services to buildings. Visually inspect for:
 - Gas meters
 - Farm taps
 - Propane tanks
 - Pipeline valves
 - Cable or telephone pedestals
 - Electric transformers
 - Water valves or meters
 - Evidence of privately owned facilities such as buried gas, electric or communications lines*
 - Evidence of trench lines from previous excavation
 - Cleared pipeline rights-of-way

Documenting the Jobsite

- 811 ticket covers the scope of the work and has a valid "work to begin" date
- All utilities have responded and are marked in the excavation area
- 811 ticket number is posted at the work location
- Pre-Excavation photos taken of the marked utilities



Before you dig

- Review excavation equipment safety information with anyone working on the job
- Locations for hand digging within the tolerance zone* for your state are noted
- Talk to representatives of all critical facilities to ensure they are present
- List of all emergency contact numbers for underground utilities in and adjacent to the dig zone is readily available
- The location and route to emergency services is known

*The "tolerance zone" is the 24" area on either side of a buried facility where hand tools or soft digging must be done.

Private Underground Facilities

Private underground facilities are NOT marked when you contact 811. It is the responsibility of the landowner to provide detailed information about these lines. These may include:

- Electric lines running between out-buildings or any line behind the meter
- Natural gas lines behind the meter
- Propane lines off the tank
- Sewer laterals or waste collection lines
- Sprinkler or irrigation lines