# Proclamation

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## Andy Beshear Gobernor

of the

## Commonwealth of Kentucky



### To All To Whom These Presents Shall Gome:

WHEREAS, This year marks the seventeenth anniversary of the launch of 811, a national "Call Before You Dig" phone number designated by the Federal Communications Commission to eliminate the confusion of multiple "Call Before You Dig" numbers; and

WHEREAS, Calling 811 can prevent injury to workers, reduce expenses to the public, and minimize damages to underground utilities; and

WHEREAS, National Safe Digging Month (NSDM) takes a time-tested marketing concept – an awareness month – and applies it to safe digging at a strategic time of year when digging is at its peak in many areas; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of NSDM in April reflects the start of spring with natural connections to Earth Day and Arbor Day; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's "8-1-1" toll-free telephone number, along with the Kentucky 811 website, provides statewide, around-the-clock, underground facility location services for all Kentucky 811-member utility providers, including all Kentucky natural gas providers; and

WHEREAS, Although public awareness of the "Call Before You Dig" phone number has increased since the establishment of 811, the ongoing problem of damage to underground facilities indicates a need for further public education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as

#### **SAFE DIGGING MONTH**

in Kentucky.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Four and in the 232<sup>nd</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

ANDY BESIDEAR

Michael G. Adams Secretary of State