



# REGISTER YOUR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES WITH COLORADO 811

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## IT'S THE LAW



In accordance with Colorado's "One Call Law," underground construction should begin only after notifying Colorado 811 (also known as Utility Notification Center of Colorado) of the intent to conduct boring or trenching in a certain location. Colorado 811 then contacts its registered underground facility owners (e.g. water, electric, gas, telecom). These facility owners must then mark the location of their facilities within 2 business days (not including the day of notification). These steps ensure construction can proceed safely and avoid underground utilities legally and properly located in the ROW.

## BACKGROUND

In May 2018, Colorado Legislators signed SB 18-167. Aimed at improving safety, here is what you need to know about the legislation:

- A facility owner **MUST** provide the Utility Notification Call Center (UNCC) with the general location of underground facilities for excavation notification purposes, including laterals in the public right-of-way.
- Within two full business days, plus the day of a locate request, facility owners **MUST** locate and mark facilities, including depth if known, and provide to UNCC: facility owner name, size, type, location of facilities, and document the location with a digital sketch, hand-drawn sketch, or photograph if attainable. Or, a response that no facilities exist.
- The markings must meet the standards to be established by the Safety Commission and follow the APWA Uniform Color Code.
- Tier 2 UNCC membership eliminated as of Jan. 1, 2021 and all registered underground facility owners and operators are full members of Colorado 811 (previous law included two tiers of membership).
- The Safety Commission may review complaints of alleged violations through a review committee. The Safety Commission will make a final determination regarding any required remedial action or penalty, which could include a fine. Fines range from \$250 for a single minor violation to \$75,000 for a fourth violation within a twelve month period.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT DAMAGE

Damage prevention is a shared responsibility. Excavators must call Colorado 811 before beginning work and facility owners must locate underground facilities.

**Damage to underground facilities that were accurately located = Responsibility of Excavator**

**Damage to underground facilities not/not accurately located = Responsibility of Facility Owner**

**As a facility owner you must:**

- Visit the Colorado 811 website at [www.colorado811.org](http://www.colorado811.org) and apply to be a member.
- Maintain updated contact records with Colorado 811 after registration.
- Have a plan to respond to locating requests as soon as practicable.
- If you have questions, contact the Membership Relations Team at 811.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

<b>What is a locate?</b>	A locate is a paint or flag marking identifying the approximate location of underground facilities so that excavators don't unintentionally dig into and damage infrastructure.
<b>Who is considered a facility owner?</b>	A facility owner is an organization or even person who owns and/or operates underground utilities. This also includes private infrastructure such as private irrigation systems for HOAs and Developments, private electrical lines for signs and other services, private communications lines, and any other non-utility owned infrastructure in the right of way.
<b>Who is a facility member?</b>	Facility owners that register their underground utilities with Colorado 811 are known as members.
<b>Who is required to locate laterals in the public right-of-way?</b>	All underground facility owners/operators are responsible for the location of service laterals in the public right-of-way.
<b>Do facility owners/operators need to register service lines on private property?</b>	Registered owners/operators need to register all of their underground facilities. This does not apply to:  (a) Any owner or occupant of real property under which underground facilities are buried if the facilities are used solely to furnish service or commodities to the real property and no part of the facilities is located in a public street, county road, alley, or right-of-way dedicated to public use; or  (b) Any homeowner.
<b>Is there a specific program or application required to receive 811 notifications?</b>	Colorado 811 delivers locate tickets notifications via email.
<b>What if I don't know where my facilities are located or have drawings, etc.?</b>	Contact your landscaping company to see if they may have that info. If not you may need to hire a private company to help you locate your facilities.
<b>Where can I find a private locating company?</b>	For a list of private locating companies, please visit: <a href="http://www.colorado811.org/private-locate-companies">www.colorado811.org/private-locate-companies</a> .

**Register to be a Colorado 811 Member**

Visit: [www.co811.org](http://www.co811.org)

**Questions, or looking to get started?**

Call: 811 or 800-922-1987

Email: [Member-services@co811.org](mailto:Member-services@co811.org)

