

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois and the Illinois Commerce Commission are concerned with the safety of the people in our state as well as the integrity of our underground utility infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, every few minutes an underground utility line is unintentionally damaged from those who fail to request that underground utility lines be located and marked prior to digging, often causing service interruptions, personal injury or even death, and affecting the environment; and,

WHEREAS, a call to the Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators, Inc. (JULIE), which serves the entire state outside of the city limits of Chicago, has nearly 100 employees, represents 1,950 members, and receives 1.5 million locate calls annually, provides excavators and underground utility owners with a one-step message-handling and delivery service committed to protecting our underground pipelines, cables and wiring, as well as the health and safety of those working and living near underground utilities; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois law requires all homeowners and professional excavators to call JULIE at the state-wide number, 811, prior to digging in order to have the underground utility lines marked by its members at no cost, regardless of whether they are planting a sapling or excavating a major construction project; and,

WHEREAS, 2019 marks a significant anniversary for the not-for-profit organization, JULIE, Inc., which has been advocating damage prevention for 45 years; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is a leader in the campaign to spread awareness of the one-call number, 811;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as **SAFE DIGGING MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage every excavator and homeowner to call 811 before digging.*

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this FIFTH day of APRIL, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
NINETEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIRST.



Deese Witt
SECRETARY OF STATE

JP
GOVERNOR