# **Guilford County UCC**

Parrish Reddick opened the meeting with a level one (who, what, when, where and why)

Kevin Smith with NC811 gave a stats presentation of the number of calls for locates in Guilford County, Kevin also stressed the numbers of calls to the owner/operator as well as NC 811 when a facility/utility is damaged are low which indicates it's not happening. He stressed the importance of this.

Communication is key to preventing damages to utilities, white lining is a law (see attachment)

Great discussion was had around white lining and a handout as well as a video helped pushed this point home, locators in attendance really liked it because it was a time saver and more locates could be accomplished with more accuracy. White lining no more than two days before the ticket is good will help keep the paint fresh and the area clearly defined.

The damage review board/committee for NC had 46 complaints on the docket and over half of them were thrown out/not reviewed because they were not specific instances where the law/statue was broken. It was stated by Jason Williams with Century Link that the folks making the compliant did not do their due diligence in presenting their case.

Jason also brought to the meeting a letter (see attached) that Wake county is proposing to use and wanted feedback from the Guilford county Team to see if they would like to use (with some changes of course) for offenders in Guilford county as well. The burden to send this would be on Jason once someone sent him the damage information.

The damages reported were:

AT&T stated someone hit a duct bank in Greensboro- miscommunication was cited as a major case in this incident.

Brian McCoy with Williams Transco stated that the almost had incident on a transmission gas line as a contractor was boring and hit their line, it was estimated that they had a 71% wall loss on that line before the drill attempt was stopped.

Kevin Smith spoke of "Micro trenching" going on in other areas and asked if it was taking place here, he went on to explain what "micro-trenching" was.

The meeting was concluded around 10:30, Jason Williams (Century Link) provided nourishment for this meeting in the form of Bo-jangles biscuits.

The next Guilford county UCC will take place at 2611 Greengate Dr Greensboro NC on the  $2^{nd}$  floor of the PNG facility on July the  $25^{th}$  @ 09:00.

Respectfully submitted by

Parrish Reddick

#### WCLRP FIRST CONTACT LETTER



Date

Contractor Name Address City, State Zip

RE: Concerning North Carolina 811 Ticket Processing Practices

(Insert Contact Name),

I am contacting you on behalf of the Wake County Locate Resolution Partnership which is an alliance of excavation stakeholders (contractors, utility operators, one call personnel, and regulatory staff). This partnership was formed to educate and assist all parties within the excavation industry to work safely and comply with the NC State Stature 87-122 in regard to appropriate and compliant excavation request activity throughout North Carolina.

In as such, it has been brought to the Partnership's attention that your organization appears to be processing North Carolina 811 tickets that have an area(s) of concern (INDICATE PROBLEM- I.E. FREQUENT UPDATES, EXCESSIVE AREA, ETC...) You may or may not be aware of changes to the Underground Utility Safety and Damage Prevention Act, North Carolina Revised Statutes; (insert law citation)- attached for your reference.

We believe that safety and compliance are as important to your organization as it is to the Partnership therefore, in the interest of positive communication, developing cooperative working relationships, and fostering understanding of appropriate marking requests the Partnership is making contact with companies such as yours in hopes that this information will assist you in managing and requesting excavation markings appropriately and help you to avoid any potential billing issues for associated damages.

Enclosed are tips for managing successful excavation activity and Members of the Partnership are available to meet with your organization and provide educational presentations on this and related Damage Prevention topics (which take approximately one hour).

In addition, the Partnership would welcome your participation and feedback on locate issues and maximizing the resources and efficiencies within the excavation industry. The Partnership's typical meeting schedule directly follows the Wake County UCC meeting, held on the last Tuesday of each month. You may visit <a href="https://www.ncucc.org">www.ncucc.org</a> for more details about the UCC schedule and meeting locations.

We are confident that you will recognize the benefit that can be gained by partnering and hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to schedule a presentation for your organization. If you are interested in partnering or scheduling a presentation for your organization, please contact Ann Rushing.

Respectfully on behalf of the North Carolina Locate Resolution Partnership,

Wake County Locate Resolution Partnership Chairman

North Carolina Locate Resolution Partners;

#### WCLRP SECOND CONTACT LETTER



Date

Company Name Address City, State, Zip

RE: Reoccurring Issues with North Carolina 811 Ticket Processing Practices

(Insert Contact name):

Our records indicate that the North Carolina Locate Partnership has made several attempts to contact and resolve our concerns related to issues surrounding your organizations use of the North Carolina 811 Center and requests for inappropriate marking (inset law citation) "...(insert quoted language)

Insert documentation detailing our efforts to educate. Insert documentation detailing our efforts to educate. Insert documentation detailing our efforts to educate.

To date the Partnership's efforts appear to have been non productive in gaining your cooperation to manage/request excavation markings appropriately and help your organization to avoid any potential billing issues for associated damages. Due to the lack of response and/or process improvement on the part of your organization, we are providing you with an estimate of what potential costs your organization could incur should immediate change not take place. Should someone complain to the Underground Damage Prevention Review Board about the violation(s) you may be subject to penalties including training and up to \$2,500 per violation.

The approximate cost for a single facility operator to field roll to a single site in which locating is not needed is \$XX.XX. Current notification ratios at the North Carolina 811 Center indicate that on an average 5.7 facility operators are notified on each North Carolina 811 ticket request for marking. Applying these cost estimates to your organizations' questionable ticket volume (*tickets showing excessive updates or unmanageable ticket area*) your potential liability for damages, cost and expenses is \$XXXXXXX.

As indicated in our previous contact the Partnership is happy to assist in educating your organization with appropriate marking request practices however, immediate improvement must be seen in your marking request volume or the Partnership will have no other remaining recourse of action but to suggest to the affected facility operators that they pursue collection of said damages and expenses.

Respectfully on behalf of the North Carolina Locate Resolution Partnership,

Chairman
Wake County Locate Resolution Partnership

North Carolina Locate Resolution Partners; North Carolina 811

#### Tips for Maintaining Working Relationships and Reasonable Excavation Areas

Changes in 2014 to North Carolina Statutes; **Article A \S 87-122.** have potential impact to excavators. Please become familiar with the following requirements and tips to ensure that you and your organization are doing everything they can to dig safely and comply with the law.

Language in § 87-122. Excavator responsibilities Section C reads as follows;

An excavator shall comply with the following:

- When the excavation area cannot be clearly and adequately identified within the area described in the notice, the excavator shall designate the route, specific area to be excavated, or both by premarking the area before the operator performs a locate. Premarking shall be made with soluble white paint, white flags, or white stakes.
- (2) Confirm through the Notification Center's positive response system prior to excavation or demolition that all operators have responded and that all facilities that may be affected by the proposed excavation or demolition have been marked.
- Plan the excavation or demolition to avoid damage to or minimize interference with facilities in or near the construction area.
- (4) Begin excavation or demolition prior to the specified waiting period only if the excavator has confirmed that all operators have responded with an appropriate positive response.
- (5) If the operator declares extraordinary circumstances, the excavator shall not excavate or demolish until after the time and date that the operator has provided in the operator's response.
- If an operator fails to respond to the positive response system, the excavator may proceed if there are no visible indications of a facility at the proposed excavation or demolition area, such as a pole, marker, pedestal, meter, or valve. However, if the excavator is aware of or observes indications of an unmarked facility at the proposed excavation or demolition area, the excavator shall not begin excavation or demolition until an additional call is made to the Notification Center detailing the facility and an arrangement is made for the facility to be marked by the operator within three hours from the time the additional call is received by the Notification Center.
- (7) Beginning on the date provided in the excavator's notice to the Notification Center, the excavator shall preserve the staking, marking, or other designation until they are no longer required. When a mark is no longer visible or is destroyed, but the excavation or demolition continues in the vicinity of the facility, the excavator shall request a re-mark from the Notification Center to ensure the protection of the facility.
- When demolition of a building is proposed, the excavator shall give the operator a reasonable time in which to remove or protect the operator's facilities before demolition commences.
- (9) An excavator shall not perform any excavation or demolition within the tolerance zone unless the excavator complies with all of the following conditions:
  - a. The excavator shall not use mechanized equipment, except noninvasive equipment specifically designed or intended to protect the integrity of the facility, within the marked tolerance zone of an existing facility until:
    - 1. The excavator has visually identified the precise location of the facility or has visually confirmed that no facility is present up to the depth of excavation;
    - 2. The excavator has taken reasonable precautions to avoid any substantial weakening of the facility's structural or lateral support, or both, or penetration or destruction of the facilities or their protective coatings; and
    - 3. The excavator may use mechanical means, as necessary, for the initial penetration and removal of pavement or other materials requiring use of mechanical means of excavation but only to the depth of the pavement or

other materials. For parallel type excavations within the tolerance zone, the existing facility shall be visually identified at intervals not to exceed 50 feet along the line of excavation to avoid damages. The excavator shall exercise due care at all times to protect the facilities when exposing these facilities.

b. The excavator shall maintain clearance between a facility and the cutting edge or point of any mechanized equipment, taking into account the known limit of control of the cutting edge or point, as may be reasonably necessary to avoid damage to the facility.

c. The excavator shall provide support for facilities in and near the excavation or demolition area, including backfill operations, as may be reasonably required by the

operator for the protection of the facilities.

(10) The excavator shall not use mechanized equipment within 24 inches of a facility that is a gas, oil, petroleum, or electric transmission line unless the facility operator has consented to the use in writing and the operator's representative is on site during the use of the mechanized equipment. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "gas, oil, petroleum transmission line" has the same meaning as the term "transmission line" in Title 49 C.F.R. § 192.3, and the term "electric transmission line" has the same meaning as the term "transmission line" in G.S. 62-100(7). (2013-407, s. 2.)

There are several practices that an excavator can consider implementing in maintaining reasonable excavation areas to avoid potential liabilities/costs.

- \* Schedule MEETS for large projects to establish agreeable and manageable marking schedules with the locators.
- \* List field contact phone numbers on North Carolina 811 tickets so locator personnel can speak directly with field personnel managing the project when questions or concerns arise.
- \* Manage your North Carolina 811 ticket request activity by routinely reviewing your tickets BEFORE updating/requesting remarks to ensure tickets requested are for active jobs that will actually be excavated during the 15 working day validity time frame.
- \* When extending validity/Updating large projects if at all possible REDUCE the area requested to be marked by using the comments field of the one call ticket. By using the comments field you can specifically define the areas where marks are needed instead of requesting that the entire project be marked again. This allows the excavator to keep the same ticket number for tracking purposes.
- \* White line the job site to designate proposed excavation areas and reduce possible misinterpretation.
- \* Avoid using "invisible" terms (right of way, easements, etc...) in your marking instructions. Using visually identifiable monuments or landmarks reduces the possibility of misinterpretation and delayed marking because further clarification becomes necessary.
- \* Ensure that you are obtaining complete marking or response by field checking the job site AND accepting electronic positive responses (either through NDP Web TMS, by viewing them on the North Carolina 811 website; <a href="https://www.nc811.org">www.nc811.org</a> or the NC811 App).

Please feel free to share the information with your industry peers and if your organization is interested in FREE educational sessions regarding the law and proper North Carolina 811 procedures please contact the North Carolina 811 Education Manager at 336-944-5518 or <a href="mailto:annrushing@Nc811.org">annrushing@Nc811.org</a>

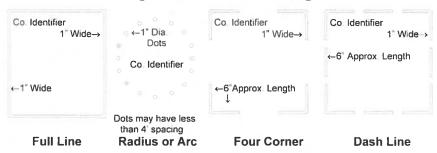
#### **BEST PRACTICES CHAPTER 5—EXCAVATION**

Practice Statement 5–2: White Lining: When the excavation site cannot be clearly and adequately identified on the locate ticket, the excavator designates the route and/or area to be excavated using white premarking prior to the arrival of the locator.

#### Guidelines for Excavation Delineation9/

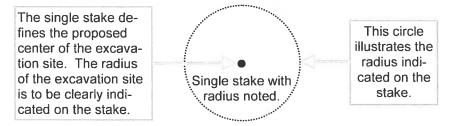
The following marking illustrations are examples of how excavators may choose to mark their area of proposed excavation. The use of white marking products (e.g., paint, flags, stakes, whiskers, or a combination of these) may be used to identify the excavation site.

#### Single Point Excavations Markings



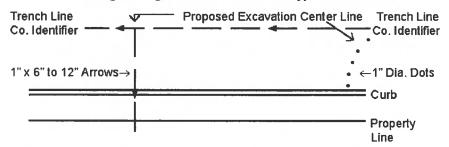
Delineate in white<sup>62</sup>/ the proposed area of excavation using a continuous line, dots marking the radius or arcs, dashes marking the four corners of the project, or dashes outlining the excavation project. Limit the size of each dash to approximately 6 in. to 12 in. long and 1 in. wide with interval spacing approximately 4 ft to 50 ft apart. Reduce the separation of excavation marks to a length that can reasonably be seen by the operator's locators when the terrain at an excavation site warrants. Dots of approximately 1 in. diameter typically are used to define arcs or radii and may be placed at closer intervals in lieu of dashes.

#### Single Stake Marking Center Point of Excavation Site



When an excavation site is contained within a 50 ft maximum radius or less, it can be delineated with a single stake that is positioned at the proposed center of the excavation. If the excavator chooses this type of delineation, they must convey that they have delineated the excavation site with a single stake at the center of the excavation and include the radius of the site in the notification to the one call center. This single stake is white in color and displays the excavator's company identifier (name, abbreviations, or initials) and the radius of the excavation site in black letters on the stake or with a notice attached to the stake.

#### Trenching, Boring, or Other Continuous-Type Excavations



#### Continuous Excavation Marking

Mark in white<sup>62</sup>/ the proposed centerline of planned excavation using 6 in. to 12 in. × 1 in. arrows approximately 4 ft to 50 ft apart to show direction of excavation. Reduce the separation of excavation marks to a length that can reasonably be seen by the operator's locators when the terrain at an excavation site warrants. Mark lateral excavations with occasional arrows showing excavation direction from centerline with marks at curb or property line if crossed. Dots may be used for curves and closer interval marking.

Stake, Flag, or Whisker Excavation Markers

Stakes, Flags or Whiskers Marking Four Corners Stakes, Flags or Whiskers Marking Outline of Excavation

Delineate the proposed area of excavation using stakes, flags, or whiskers instead of spray paint to mark radius or arcs; the four corners of the project; or when outlining the excavation project. Limit the interval spacing to approximately 4 ft to 50 ft. Reduce the separation of excavation marks to a length that can reasonably be seen by the operator's locators when the terrain at an excavation site warrants. Stakes, flags, or whiskers provided to illustrate arcs or radii may be placed at closer intervals to define the arc or radius. Stakes, flags, or whiskers are white in color and display the excavator's company identifier (name, abbreviations, or initials).

UCC Sign-In Sheet

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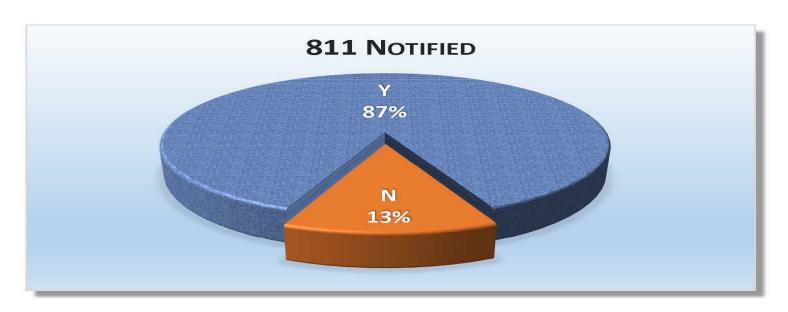
# **May 2018**



**Guilford County** 

### **Incidents**

811 Notified	Events	% of Grand Total
Υ	598	87.17%
N	88	12.83%
Grand Total	686	100.00%





NC811, March 2018: 686 Damage Events in 66 Counties

## **Incidents**

	BURIED TELEPHONE CABLE	
KAKA,	Walley Wall	

By Events		
County	Events % of (	Grand Total
Mecklenburg	125	18.22%
Wake	124	18.08%
Guilford	32	4.66%
Johnston	31	4.52%
Durham	30	4.37%
Union	25	3.64%
Cumberland	24	3.50%
Forsyth	22	3.21%
Brunswick	21	3.06%
New Hanover	19	2.77%
Cabarrus	17	2.48%
Gaston	15	2.19%
Davidson	11	1.60%
Harnett	11	1.60%
Lee	10	1.46%
Alamance	9	1.31%
Buncombe	9	1.31%
Orange	9	1.31%
Franklin	8	1.17%
Pitt	8	1.17%
Chatham	7	1.02%
Iredell	7	1.02%
Lincoln	7	1.02%
Moore	7	1.02%
Cleveland	6	0.87%
Craven	6	0.87%
Dare	6	0.87%
Rutherford	5	0.73%
Stanly	5	0.73%
Pender	5	0.73%
Henderson	4	0.58%
Caldwell	3	0.44%
Catawba	3	0.44%

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NC811, March 2018: 686 Damage Events in 66 Counties



# Locate Requests & Transmissions

#### Apr. 2018 vs 2017

#### Year-to-Date

#### **Tickets**

2018: 175,205 2017: 156,103

Difference: 12.2%

#### **Transmissions**

2018: 997,408

2017: 889,980

Difference: 12.1%

#### **Tickets**

2018: 644,073

2017: 623,623

Difference: 3.3%

#### **Transmissions**

2018: 3,612,848

2017: 3,532,442

Difference: 2.3

%

# County Ticket Volume

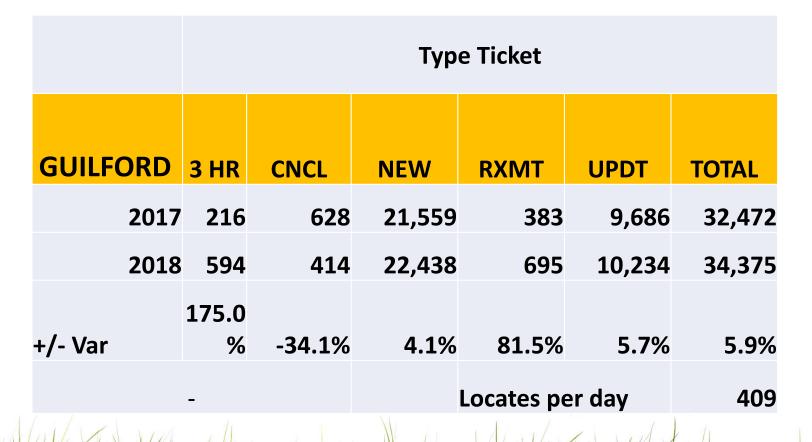
April 2018 Stats Compared with April 2017



	Type Ticket					
GUILFORD	3 HR	CNCL	NEW	RXMT	UPDT	TOTAL
2017	53	250	5,610	75	2,388	8,376
2018	138	84	6,397	211	2,616	9,446
+/- Var	160.4 %	-66.4%	14.0%	181.3%	9.5%	12.8%
And the Market and th	-	-	IW - IW / c	Locates pe	r day	450

## County Ticket Volume

YTD stats compared with previous year





#### County Ticket Distribution



<b>JAMESTOWN</b>	234
JULIAN	32
KERNERSVILLE	36
KIMESVILLE	2
<b>MCLEANSVILLE</b>	190
MONTICELLO	50
OAK RIDGE	137
PLEASANT	
GARDEN	58
SEDALIA	2
STOKESDALE	174
<b>SUMMERFIELD</b>	250
WHITSETT	158



# **Incidents**

# WHITE PAINT OR FLAGS ON A JOB SITE ELIMINATES GUESSWORK.

Sometimes it is difficult for excavators to relay the exact location of their dig sites to the one call center. Even clear and accurate information relayed in writing or verbally to one person may not be clear to another. With white lining, locators have excavation information on paper, and also have a clearly marked excavation area. White lining helps to avoid misinterpretation and allows for more accurate locates.











For booking info reach out to Tonya Hargraves tonya@nc811.org

2018

July 20, 2018 Lake Lure, NC

3018

October 19, 2018 New Bern, NC

For more details visit: nc811.org/board-info.html

# NC Underground Damage Prevention Review Board Meetings

Located at: 2550 Operations Way, Raleigh, NC

- July 17, 2018 10am to 4pm
- October 16, 2018 10am to 4pm



# State NCUCC Meetings



- July 10, 2018
   10am to noon in Hickory, NC at Piedmont Natural Gas
- September 11, 2018
   10am to noon in Concord, NC at PSNC Energy

For more details visit: nc811.org/events.html

# NC811 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT













Ann

Howard

Tami

Brian

Kevin

Steve

Thank you for your time and attention. You can get a PDF copy of this presentation on www.ncucc.org



Use the UCC Issues form to voice your concerns to both local and state level UCC meetings in North Carolina. Available on both the NCUCC website and the NC811 app.

