



State of  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**SAFE DIGGING MONTH**  
APRIL 2017

**WHEREAS**, each year, the nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage by those who fail to call 8-1-1 to have underground facilities located prior to digging, resulting in possible service interruptions, damage to the environment, personal injury and even death; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to reduce these damages, the North Dakota Public Service Commission, the Common Ground Alliance and the North Dakota One Call Board promote the national Call-Before-You-Dig number, 8-1-1, as well as the use of safe digging practices; and


**WHEREAS**, designated by the Federal Communications Commission in 2005, 8-1-1 provides potential excavators and homeowners with a simple number to reach their local One Call Center to request utility locations at the intended dig site; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota law requires that anyone planning excavation or demolition must notify North Dakota 8-1-1, and if a facility must be located, personnel will be sent to mark the location of underground facilities at no cost to the requesting party; and

**WHEREAS**, by following safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money by making a simple call to 8-1-1 in advance of any digging project, waiting the required amount of time for the utility to be located, respecting the location marks by maintaining visual definition throughout the excavation, and digging with care around the marks; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota excavators and homeowners are encouraged to know what is below, and to call 8-1-1 before digging to ensure the safety and connectivity of our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2017, **SAFE DIGGING MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State