

SPECIAL EDITION

OF

The North Carolina One-Call Center, Inc.

Call 811 or 1-800-632-4949 Before You Dig!

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Groundbreaking News

Ticket Start Time to Change

Currently, the start time on a locate ticket begins at the time it is called in. However, beginning July 1, 2008, the clock start time will change to 12:01 a.m. on the next business day from when the ticket is called in. For example, if someone calls in at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, instead of the 2-working day notice being at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, it will not begin counting until 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday which should have the utility location being done by 12:01 a.m. on Thursday. If there should be any holidays during the 2-day period, the notice would skip the holidays as it always has. Please see the example below for how to calculate the new time periods. *It should be noted that notifications will still be released after notice is given and **will not** be held until 12:01 a.m. the next business day for transmission to member utilities and their locators.*

North Carolina One-Call's policy on the Ticket Start Time is stated as follows: It is the policy of The North Carolina One-Call Center, Inc. that all notices of intent to excavate received by it are deemed to have been received at 12:01 a.m. on the next working day following the day of actual receipt (the "Ticket Start Time"), and that the 2-day and 10-day statutory periods are calculated from the ticket start time.

Example: The North Carolina One-Call Center is notified on Monday the 1st at 1:00 p.m. The 2-working day notice starts at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday the 2nd. The 2-working day notice should have the locate completed by 12:01 a.m. on Thursday the 4th.

The ticket would expire 15 days from the 2nd at 12:01 a.m., which would be Wednesday the 24th at 12:01 a.m. It should be updated on Friday the 19th if work will not be completed before the 24th.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5	6
7		8	9	10	11	12	13
14		15	16	17	18	19 Update	20
21		22	23	24 Expires 12:01 a.m.	25	26	27
28		29	30	31			

Breakfast Club

The Marketing Liaisons attend numerous meetings across the State. Recently the Foothills Utility Coordinating Committee (UCC) held a Contractor's Breakfast in Shelby on April 8th. There was a good turnout with 90 people showing up.

Meredith McDiarmid of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) spoke to the group about the upcoming Traffic Control Certification for work zones on DOT right-of-ways.

Valuable information can always be found at UCC meetings and anyone connected with any kind of underground work is encourage to attend a meeting in his or her area.



Attendees listen to Meredith McDairmid's presentation at the Foothills UCC Contractor's Breakfast.

New Board Members

Two members of North Carolina One-Call's Board of Directors resigned in February. Matt Jordan of the City of Gastonia, former Board President, and David Breeding of DPS left their jobs and could no longer serve. The unexpired terms of these two men were filled by Rusty Bost with the City of Gastonia and Victor Overaitis with Utiliquest.



Why is 'abbreviation' such a long word?

Streets by Satellite

The North Carolina One-Call Marketing Liaisons will be assisting the Database/GIS Department in updating the map used to find dig sites. Customer Service Representatives and Remote Ticket Entry users access an electronic map to determine underground utility location areas. The more streets found in the map the better able NC One-Call can notify its utility membership. While new street data is constantly obtained from various sources, the very newest streets often go unfound.

North Carolina One-Call has purchased two Geospatial Positioning System (GPS) devices used for plotting points on the earth. These GPS units utilize the same satellites used by the navigational systems available for cars. The liaisons will be given a list of streets not found in the electronic map and will attempt to find them; hopefully, with the help of area contractors at the meetings they attend. Once the unidentified streets are found, the liaisons will plot the street geometry with the GPS units. The data collected will be sent back to the Database/GIS Department where the technicians will incorporate the new street information into the mapping.

If you attend a meeting where a liaison is looking for new streets, please try to help them out because you will be helping everyone in your area, including yourself when it comes to the location of underground utilities. Also, if you know of new streets being constructed, don't wait to be asked where they are; contact the Database/GIS Department at 336-854-8597 or 811 and let us know where we can find them.

Experience is a wonderful thing; it enables you to recognize mistakes when you make them again.



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Ditch Digger Award

North Carolina One-Call is proud to announce that Bradford Barringer of B.R.S., Inc., Richfield, NC, was honored on Saturday, April 20th by the members of the North Carolina Utility Contractors Association as the organization's first "Ditch Digger of the Year" during the Association's Spring Conference held in Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. Barringer has had several milestones with regard to North Carolina One-Call. Last year, he took the first ticket on the Newtin system when it was implemented, his company was the first to join as an Associate Member in 2005 when contractors were allowed to join, and he also called in the one millionth ticket back in 1988.



Mr. Barringer holds up his Silver Shovel Award.



A golf course is a site to be holed.

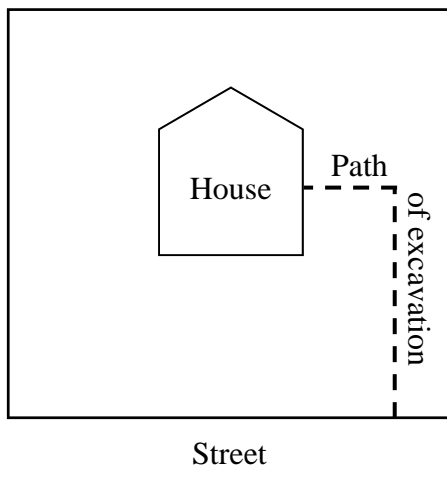
Striving for Excellence

A good locate begins with good information from the excavator and is imperative for an underground locate to be marked accurately in a timely manner. Specific locate instructions help the utility locator determine what needs to be located and where.

Be prepared to give detailed marking instructions when requesting a notification. When only digging on a small portion of a property, it is best to request the exact area needed; requesting areas outside the scope of a dig zone cause locators to take valuable time doing unnecessary marking when other utilities need locating at other sites. If excavators gave more specific locate details, limiting what needs to be marked, locates could be performed more quickly and work could possibly begin sooner. Premarking the proposed excavation area with white paint (white lining) is highly recommended as a way to identify specific locate areas on a site, especially for large properties.

Below are examples of various types of information that could be given on a locate request:

Scenario 1: A cable is to be placed from the street to a house.

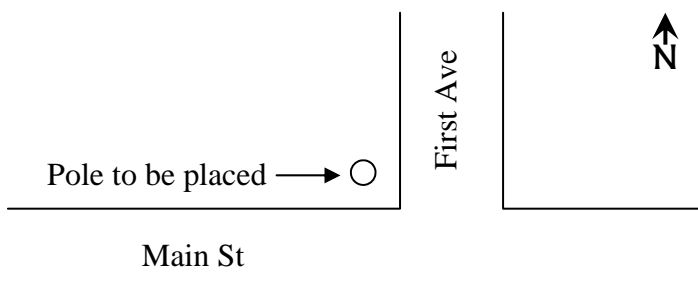


General information: Locate entire property.

Better information: As facing from street, locate the entire right side of property.

Excellent information: As facing from street, locate the entire right side of property from the street to the back right corner of the house; area marked in white paint.

Scenario 2: A new pole is to be placed at an intersection.



General information: Locate entire intersection of Main St and First Ave and 50 feet down First Ave.

Better information: Locate entire NW corner of Main St and First Ave.

Excellent information: Locate 10 foot radius around stake at NW corner of Main St and First Ave.



I bought a new Boomerang, but I can't seem to throw the old one away.

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National Safe Digging Month

The Common Ground Alliance and its stakeholders have designated May 2008 as National Safe Digging Month. It is dedicated to increasing awareness of safe digging practices across the country and to celebrate the one-year anniversary of 811, the national call-before-you-dig number.

North Carolina One-Call proudly supports this effort and, as always, encourages everyone to call before digging.

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MONTH**

MAY 2008

Introducing...

Many one-call centers across the United States have mascots that represent excavation in some way. North Carolina One-Call is no exception and has adopted a groundhog as its official mascot.

Our furry friend will be starring in his own commercials promoting the benefits of digging safely in North Carolina. You may see him in his first role on our website at www.ncocc.org; his video is on the News page.



The Groundhog makes his debut.



B.U.D. attends a trade show.

Steve Moore, our IT Technician who has a background in graphic arts, has brought our groundhog to life, so to speak. He has done all of the creative work: filming, editing, sound effects and production.

In the same vein, the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) has developed B.U.D as an attention getter at trade shows and the like. The CGA is the organization behind the 811 campaign. B.U.D. stands for “Before U Dig” and represents 811’s red telephone logo. Anytime you see B.U.D around North Carolina let him serve as a reminder to Call Before You Dig!



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Spot 'em

Televue, LLC

*For a complete list of all members by county,
visit our website at: www.ncocc.org.*

Migration Progresses

The streets in North Carolina counties are being moved (migrated) into more accurate positions to create more accurate notifications. Three counties, Mecklenburg, New Hanover and Buncombe have already been moved and are being used in the Ticket Entry mapping. Before a county is replaced in mapping, all utilities in that county must check to make sure the shift in streets does not warrant a change to their database. A larger group of counties will be migrated in the next phase. The next set of counties that will be repositioned are: Alleghany, Anson, Beaufort, Brunswick, Dare, Edgecombe, Gaston, Guilford, Halifax, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, Perquimans, Person, Polk, Randolph, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Union, Wake and Washington. Members, be on the lookout for notification from the Database/GIS Department about when it's time for you to check your databases in these counties.



The dead batteries were given out free of charge.

Rebus Roundup

The "word pictures" below represent common words or phrases. Do your best. The answers will be revealed in the next issue.

Give Get
Give Get
Give Get
Give Get

LE
VEL

CORPORATE

TRY STAND
2

JOB IN JOB

Doctor
Doctor

BIRD

ME REPEAT

0
Bachelor of Science
Doctor of Philosophy

Search
And



All Over the Map

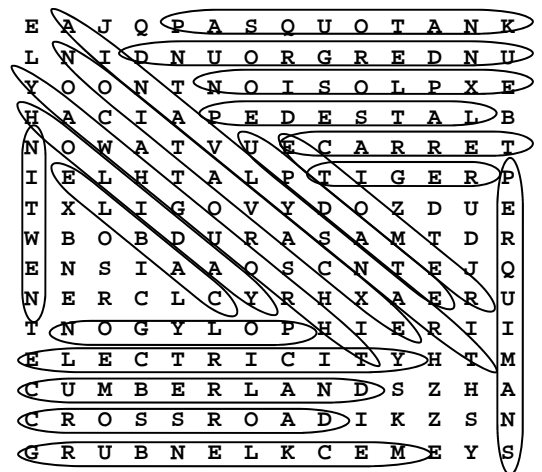
By Marshall Dean
a.k.a. The Mad Mapper

For Spring Break I thought we would head down to the North Carolina coast. These fine roads can be found in Beaufort County. Maybe you'll get to drive on one of them this summer.

- Betsy Elbow Rd
- Diggie Do Dr
- Great Gut Rd
- Last Chance Ln
- Lizzard Slip Rd
- Seed Tick Neck Rd
- Squeaky Dr
- The Dirt Rd
- Up The Ln

Enjoy your time at the shore and we'll hit another hot spot next quarter.

Below is the solution to last issue's Word Locator puzzle.



2008 Holiday Observances

The North Carolina One-Call Center will observe

Memorial Day on Monday, May 26th
Independence Day on Friday, July 4th

*Only emergency location requests
are taken during holidays.*



Never miss a good chance to shut up.

The *North Carolina* One-Call Center, Inc.
2300 W. Meadowview Rd., Suite 227
Greensboro, NC 27407



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

It's Coming...

July 1, 2008

The North Carolina One-Call Center is changing its policy on the ticket start time. On July 1, 2008 the ticket clock will not start until 12:01 a.m. the next business day from when a notification is called in, at which time the two-working day notice will begin counting. All those excavating in North Carolina need to be aware of this significant change when scheduling work. The complete story is on the front page of this issue of Groundbreaking News.

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