

Call or Click 3 working days before you dig!

# Damages Occur

439,000 Recorded Damages Nationwide!

New DIRT Stats:



#### **Excavation Practices Not Sufficient**

- · Failure to maintain clearance
- Failure to support exposed facilities
- · Failure to use hand tools
- · Failure to pot hole
- Improper backfilling
- · Failure to maintain marks

### 25%

#### **Notification Not Made**

· No notification made to the call center

#### **Location Practices Not Sufficient**

- Incorrect facility records/maps
- Facility marking or location not sufficient
- · Facility was not located or marked
- Facility could not be found or located



#### **Notification Practices Not Sufficient**

- Notification to call center made but not sufficient
- Wrong information provided to call center

**Miscellaneous Other Causes** 





FALL 2018







# Mark Your Calendar!

# December 5th-6th

To register, visit mocommonground.org/summit



## MOCS

#### **Membership totals**

#### **New Members:**

**Bays-ET High Speed Internet** OzarksGo Mid-States Services LLC Republic R-3 School District Wisper ISP

Liberty Utilities Bilyeu Ridge **Liberty Utilities Lakeway Liberty Utilities Moore Bend Liberty Utilities Midland Liberty Utilities Riverfork Liberty Utilities Venice Liberty Utilities Valley Woods** 

#### **Dig-Up Documentation**

MOCS routinely receives calls from excavators for ticket information about past damages. Often the excavator has misplaced or failed to retain any documentation he may have had and has since received a bill from the utility for damages.

Even when a utility representative at the dig site states that you are not at fault, the claims department of that company does not always receive that information and will routinely issue an invoice for damages.

Usually some time has passed before the invoice from the utility is received. It is to your benefit to be able to produce documentation about that particular dig-up if you feel you need to contest the bill.

#### **Every excavator should:**

🚹 Take lots of photographs. Photograph 🔼 Maintain a file for each job. Keep the work site with your phone or camera before you begin work and again in the event of a dig-up.

Shoot in a complete circle around the damage and include reference points in the background. Place an item in the foreground that will give some scale to the photograph.

any and all documentation, ticket numbers, (both the original request and the Dig-Up), photographs, names of the people you spoke with, phone numbers and notes for future reference.

## **FREE White Flags!**

We mailed out 101,000 white flags in 2017! Everyone else is ordering them. You should too! When you visit the dig site prior to calling in your locate request, it is to your advantage to "white line" the area where you intend to work.

Carry white paint or flags in your trucks. When you define your dig site, it improves the utilities ability to do a fast and accurate locate which in turn benefits the excavator.

Marking underground facilities is not an exact science.

A "buffer zone" of two-feet on either side of the marks

placed by the locator has been established to prevent damages.

Missouri law defines an "Approximate Location" as a strip of land not wider than the width of the underground facility plus two feet on either side thereof.

Any excavation within this "buffer zone" should be done in a "safe and prudent' manner.

Hand digging within the "Approximate Location".





Rrint off the tickets using "Ticket Search" on mo1call.com for this file.

What is an

location?

approximate

In the event of damage, the excavator is required to call 1-800-DIG-RITE or 811 to process a Dig-Up ticket.

# New EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VIDEOS

To date, these have been viewed over

14,000 Times! Take a few minutes to check out these five short educational/training video segments. They are located on our homepage at www.mo1call.com. Click on our video library tab.











These five quick videos cover the One Call process and can serve as an educational tool for new employees and as a quick review for all active excavators.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SMELL NATURAL GAS



#### **OUTSIDE:**

Call the gas company to report the odor and its approximate location.

Do not smoke. Do not use lighters, matches or any other open flame.

Do not use tools or equipment in the area until the natural gas company responds and investigates the leak.

Evacuate the building immediately.

Do not operate any electrical switches. Do not smoke. Do not use lighters, matches or any open flame.

Go to another building and call the local natural gas company to report the odor.

#### **REMEMBER:**

The local natural gas company is on call 24-hours a day to respond to emergencies.

#### **EXCAVATOR TICKET MANAGEMENT**

Would you like an easier way to manage your locate requests? Excavator Ticket Management (ETM) is a free, online tool available for all excavators to manage tickets. Using ETM, you can:

- See the list of tickets you've processed, online or over the phone, for the last six years.
- View the status of the utilities prior to going out to the job.
- Process relocate tickets, no response tickets, ticket extensions or cancel a ticket with just a couple clicks.
- Protect yourself by attaching post locate photos to your tickets.

For help or for a more detailed walk through of the ETM product, please contact Becky McClain, Web Products Coordinator, at **moitic@occinc.com or 573-636-1566.** 



## **2018 Call Volume**Record Numbers Continue!

As more excavators and homeowners across the state participate, we are seeing record numbers of locate requests.



## Damage Prevention Safety Presentations



MOCS has four Damage Prevention Managers who will be happy to work with you to schedule a presentation for your company's employees.

If you would like a presentation for a safety or an educational meeting, contact us at 573-635-1818 to schedule a date and time.

Or, contact:

Arch York - Kansas City and Western Missouri 913-219-4174

Bill Murray - St. Louis and Eastern Missouri 314-307-2122

Derek Leffert - Central Missouri 573-280-8500

Nick Rasa - Southern Missouri 660-221-1625

