

THE SCOOP

FALL 2023

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Follow the QR code to our online store and download a copy of the Excavator Manual TODAY!

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Missouri 811 is thrilled to introduce a series of enhanced training opportunities coming your way:

Missouri 811's New Online Learning Management System (LMS)

- Focus: Statute 319 law and damage prevention.
- Ideal for both newcomers and veterans in our industry.
- Features include:
 - Flexible pace to match individual schedules.
 - Certification upon successful completion.

Stay tuned for the upcoming release of a locator training course. We are dedicated to enriching our LMS with valuable courses annually.

Statewide Bootcamps in 2024!

- Kicking off in January 2024, our adept Damage Prevention Managers will be touring the state to conduct specialized bootcamps for excavators.
- To benefit from this knowledge-rich training, watch the Missouri 811 calendar for dates near you.

Collaboration with Sub Surface Solutions

- Starting in January, in partnership with Sub Surface Solutions, we're rolling out monthly locator training sessions throughout 2024.
- Mark your calendars by regularly checking our Missouri 811 schedule.

We're continuously striving to offer more training sessions, details of which will be shared soon. Continuing education is offered at no cost to you, compliments of Missouri 811! We encourage you to join, benefit, and share feedback.

Stay informed and keep an eye on the Missouri 811 calendar!

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Improve I-70 Program

Over recent years, traveling across Missouri has become increasingly challenging due to the rise in vehicles and accidents between St. Louis and Kansas City. This has intensified the need for substantial enhancements to Interstate 70. The House, Senate, and Governor Parson have authorized the most significant investment in Missouri's transportation network, allocating \$2.8 billion in the recent state budget for capacity enhancements on I-70. These upgrades will introduce a third travel lane in both directions between Blue Springs (Kansas City) and Wentzville (St. Louis). In addition to these improvements, MoDOT is exploring potential augmentations within the budget, encompassing road, bridge, safety, and technology enhancements, while focusing on maximizing return on investment.

Following the funding of the Improve I-70 Program, MoDOT organized statewide public meetings at seven chosen locations. Attendees received project updates and had their concerns addressed, notably regarding property impacts. MoDOT clarified that most of the 200-mile enhancement would occur within existing rights-of-way. MoDOT has also engaged with industry professionals. The inaugural project between Columbia and Kingdom City is slated as a design-build initiative, with construction expected by Summer 2024. Further industry meetings will precede each project's procurement phase. For more on the Improve I-70 Program, visit www.modot.org/improvei70.

IMPROVE I-70 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE					
PROJECT	LIMITS	PROJECT SIZE	PROCUREMENT KICKOFF	PROJECT AWARD	COMPLETION
1	COLUMBIA TO KINGDOM CITY	\$405 MILLION	AUGUST 2023	EARLY 2024	LATE 2027
2	WENTZVILLE (I-64) TO WARRENTON	\$400-500 MILLION	MARCH 2024	FALL 2023	FALL 2028
3	BLUE SPRINGS TO ODESSA	\$200-300 MILLION	OCTOBER 2024	SPRING 2025	FALL 2028
4	KINGDOM CITY TO WARRENTON	\$650-750 MILLION	APRIL 2026	FALL 2026	FALL 2030
5	ODESSA TO MARSHALL	\$450-550 MILLION	OCTOBER 2026	SPRING 2027	SPRING 2030
6	MARSHALL TO COLUMBIA	\$600-700 MILLION	MAY 2027	FALL 2027	FALL 2030

The tentative schedule for the Improve I-70 project has been released to industry partners and the public. Early projects for the schedule were based on locations where a significant amount of early work had already been completed.



Industry partners and MoDOT joined Governor Parson and other elected officials in a ceremonial budget bill signing in St. Charles County on August 14, 2023.

Locate Requests by Month in 2023



The "Utility Locates" chart for January to September displays the number of utility locates done by different stakeholders: Utilities, Contractors, and Homeowners.



**CHECK OUT OUR
LATEST COMMERCIAL!**

**DON'T BE
LIKE JEB!**

Scan the QR code
to watch!



NEW MEMBERS

- Bluebit Networks, LLC
- MidAmerican Energy
- City of Bland
- MJZ Networks
- CoxHealth
- Eagle Ridge Landfill

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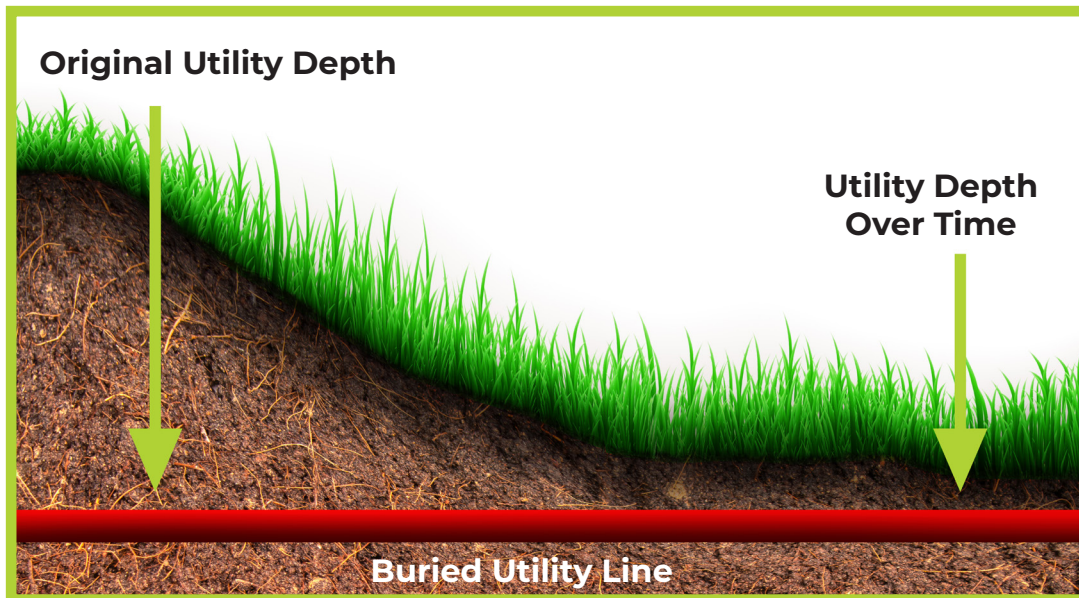
A Friendly Reminder:

Understanding Limitations in Utility Depth Information with Missouri 811

Missouri 811 plays a pivotal role in ensuring the safety and efficiency of excavation projects by providing vital information on the location of underground utilities. While the service is indispensable, it is crucial for excavators to be aware that Missouri 811 does not possess information regarding the depth of each utility and consequently, cannot advise on safe excavation depths around these utilities.

Utility depths can significantly vary due to erosion, human interventions, and changes in the landscape, leading to possible discrepancies in their estimated and actual positions below the ground. Missouri 811's primary role is to assist in informing the proper utility owners about the presence and location of utilities to prevent damages, ensuring the safety of both the community and workers involved in excavation projects. To mitigate the risks associated with unknown utility depths, excavators are encouraged to employ safe digging practices and cautiously approach all projects. Adopting a proactive approach, such as hand digging or potholing techniques when close to marked utilities, is crucial to avoid unintended damages and ensuing complications.

Missouri 811 is committed to fostering safe excavation practices by communicating with utility companies that will be providing accurate information on the location of underground utilities. However, excavators need to be cognizant of the limitations in utility depth information and undertake adequate precautions to maintain the safety of all stakeholders. By staying informed and incorporating proven excavation methods, we can collectively ensure the protection of our communities and the extensive network of underground utilities traversing them.



Damage Prevention Managers are well-versed in the Missouri 319 statutes and are available to provide training, FREE of charge. Schedule today by calling 573-635-1818 or directly by contacting:

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The Importance of Clear Marks: Ensuring Safe Digging in Missouri

Safety is paramount when undertaking any excavation project, and in Missouri, adhering to the guidance provided by Missouri 811 plays a crucial role in ensuring that every dig is a safe dig. A significant component of this guidance is the clear and visible marking of underground utilities. However, sometimes these marks can fade or become unreadable. Here's why it's essential to prioritize good marks and avoid digging when they are unclear.

- Prevention of Damages
- Personal and Public Safety
- Compliance with Regulations
- Cost-Efficiency
- Responsibility and Professionalism

What to Do If Marks Are Faded or Unreadable?

If you arrive at a site and notice faded or unreadable marks:

- Do not proceed with digging.
- Contact Missouri 811 immediately to request a re-marking of the area.
- Document the current state of the markings with photos, which can be useful for reference.

Clear and readable markings are not just a procedural requirement, but the first line of defense against potential hazards during excavation. By ensuring that we only dig when these marks are in good condition, we uphold the safety and integrity of Missouri's infrastructure and communities. Always remember: Respect the marks and dig safely!

GOOD LOCATE



FADED LOCATE



REGISTER TODAY!

DECEMBER 6-7 2023

OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS, SPRINGFIELD, MO



THE
SCOOP
FALL 2023



CLICK OR CALL
3 WORKING DAYS
BEFORE
YOU DIG