



Broadband In North Carolina

What to Know About Digging in North Carolina

Welcome to North Carolina! This is an exciting time as companies work to bring much needed broadband to rural communities. Your work will add to other infrastructure initiatives happening around the state that use locate resources to protect the existing utilities. Note that following the process and limiting the scope of your work requests to work actually permitted and being performed within the time frame required is necessary to assure compliance.

When working underground in North Carolina, the [law](#) requires excavators and operators to perform specific activities during the process. As this varies from state to state, the key points to understand in NC include:

Excavator should secure any city, county or state permits or encroachments prior to requesting locates.

Notice for any excavation or demolition that does not involve a subaqueous facility must be given no less than three full working days before the proposed commencement date of the excavation or demolition. (§87-122(a))

For a facility, within three full working days prior to the work start date provided by the excavator. 87-121 (a) (2) (b) (1)

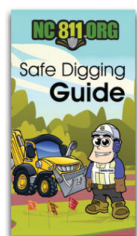
If an excavator is aware of facilities at the site, regardless of operator reported status, the excavator is requested to notify NC 811 for a 3 Hour Notice. (§87-122(c)(6))

White-lining is required of the excavator when the location of excavation cannot be adequately described. (§87-122(c)(1)). Positive Response (locate status) requirements include status provided by the operator and that the status be checked by the excavator. Details about positive response including meaning of the codes may be found [here](#).

Operators are required to provide their ID with the marks to distinguish each utility from the others. (§87-121(a)(1a)). NC follows the APWA color code standard for marking colors.

Attend your local UCC to discuss, meet and coordinate projects with industry stakeholders. Visit [NCUCC.org](#) for your local meeting.

In addition to UCC attendance, conduct regular pre-construction meetings with locators and utilities in the areas you will be working.



If you need literature to distribute to your crews, you can request it from us [here](#).

We offer free 811 training through Pipes Plus, including the ability to print a certificate showing completion of the online course. For more visit [ncpipesplus.org](#).



For even more information scan this QR code.