

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.



Don't Assume You Know What's Below

AUGUST 11 IS NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING DAY! Always call 811 or file your locate requests online before you start digging, so Iowa One Call can mark your underground utility lines and help you dig safely.

Things to Remember

You must contact Iowa One Call at least 48 hours (not including weekends and holidays) in advance of your plans to excavate. A ticket is valid for 20 calendar days from the time of the call. ALWAYS check the yard markings and your Iowa One Call Positive Response ticket status before you excavate.

Iowa One Call will ask a series of questions:

- » What is your name, address, and phone number?
- » What type of work will you be doing (i.e., planting a tree, installing a fence)?

- » What is the dig location's address (city, county, and nearest intersecting street)?
- » Where will you be digging (i.e., east side of the house, within a five-foot radius of the white stake)?
- » When will you be digging (i.e., in three days, next week)?

What Does NOT Get Marked by Iowa One Call?

Only buried facilities registered with Iowa One Call will be located and marked. Private facilities will not be marked (LP gas lines, sprinkler systems, gas grill lines, etc.). Call private locating companies to have your private facilities marked.

What Is the Tolerance Zone?

Paint and flag markings are approximate. The tolerance zone is 18" on either side of the markings. Hand dig with caution in the tolerance zone to expose the facility.

What Do the Paint and Flag Colors Indicate?

Underground facilities will be marked according to the APWA Color Code:

- » Red – Electric power lines, cables, and conduit and lighting cables
- » Yellow – Gas, oil, steam, and petroleum or gaseous materials
- » Orange – Communication, alarm or signal lines, and cables or conduit
- » Blue – Water, irrigation, and slurry lines
- » Green – Sewers and drain lines
- » Pink – Temporary survey markings
- » White – Proposed excavation
- » Purple – Reclaimed water

Before Iowa One Call arrives, outline your proposed excavation site in white paint or with white flags to prevent confusion on the location of the proposed excavation.

Budget Billing Levels Monthly Payments for Members

ECI REC offers budget billing to make financial planning easier and help members anticipate monthly costs. We calculate your monthly payment based on your 12-month usage history. Accounts are periodically reviewed to ensure payments match actual usage, so you do not face a large debit or credit at the end of the year.

There are several ways you can enroll:

- » Go to ecirec.coop and complete the budget billing form, then submit by email or USPS mail.
- » Email csr@ecirec.coop.
- » Make an inquiry via SmartHub, under the Contact Us section.
- » Call our toll-free number, 877-850-4343.
- » Visit our Urbana headquarters building.
- » Complete the budget billing form to the right and mail it to ECI REC | Billing | PO Box 248 | Urbana, IA 52345-0248.



YES, tell me my monthly budget amount.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

ECI REC Account No.(s): _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Note: Budget billing only applies for members who have an ECI REC usage history of less than 3,000 kWh.

Stop by and see us at the Iowa State Fair!



Iowa State Fair
OFFICIAL SPONSOR
AUG 12-22

Visit our booth in the newly renovated Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building on the southwest end of the fairgrounds! We'll have plastic hard hats for kids (while supplies last) and a fun co-op safety selfie station.

Take a quick survey at our booth for a chance to win one of three great prizes.



BREVILLE SMART OVEN PRO



DEWALT 20V MAX VR BLOWER



ROOMBA 614 ROBOT VACUUM



ON THE GO THIS SUMMER?

DON'T FORGET! Your Co-op Connections® Card gets you discounts on everything from hotel stays and garden supplies to auto repairs and prescription drugs.

www.connections.coop



Download the free app to save without your card.



Misplaced your card? Call us toll-free at 877-850-4343 or email ecirec@ecirec.coop

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Your Co-op Connections® Card offers you Healthy Savings and local and national deals. Use your card to start saving today! Questions? Email coopconnections@ecirec.coop.



Use SmartHub to pay for FREE online! Visa, Discover, American Express, and MasterCard accepted. While you're there, view your monthly usage data in helpful chart formats.