

In The Trenches

Protecting Facilities, Families and the Future
October Newsletter 2020



Know what's below.
Call **MISSDIG** at **811**
before you dig.



The advertisement features the Missdig mascot, a brown beaver wearing a yellow hard hat with '811' on it, safety glasses, and a yellow safety vest with 'MISSDIG 811' printed on it. The mascot is sitting on a patch of grass next to a red shovel. The background is a blue sky with a yellow '811' sign on a pole. The entire advertisement is set against a blue background with a yellow border.



From MISS DIG 811!



MISS DIG 811 Training



MISS DIG 811 offers multiple training options to our members and the public. Public Act 174 requires that MISS DIG 811 is responsible for the education of stakeholders in the excavation community. This includes facility owner/operators, locators, excavators and the public.

MISS DIG 811 provides practical, up-to-date tools which help navigate the process and bring about the most efficient, safe outcome possible to your digging projects. Click on the link below to find out what training is offered by MISS DIG 811. From virtual training to live seminars MISS DIG 811 offers training for everyone.



[MISS DIG 811 Training and Certifications](#)

dp-PRO Locate Research Survey

We have a new Locate Research Survey out in the Fall issue of dp-PRO and dp-PRO.com and would appreciate your help in getting this survey link out to your members. This will help make sure your members views



are counted, and receiving more survey responses increases the validity of the survey results. All our survey results are posted on the dp-PRO website and are free to the industry to view as well.

New Locate Research Survey link: <https://dp-pro.com/elementor-67723/>

Results from the Summer Asset Inspection

Survey: <https://48x4du49n4311maw5ghf844c-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/08/Asset-Inspection-Survey.pdf>

Recap from the Summer Asset Inspection

Survey: <https://48x4du49n4311maw5ghf844c-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/08/Asset-Inspection-Recap.pdf>

"Digging In" - MISS DIG 811 Podcast



Coming soon this month to MISS DIG 811, "Digging In", a new podcast series. Each week we'll cover a damage prevention topic from Public Act 174, to online resources, tips for homeowners, and more. These 10-15 minute podcasts are perfect for the drive to work or the job site, or any time you are interested in enhancing your understanding of the MISS DIG 811 process. Look for episodes of "Digging In" to begin this October on Apple, Google, Spotify and Amazon.

RTE Forums

- Refresh your skills
- Join an RTE Forum Webinar
- Two RTE Forums held each month
- October topic: How to cancel and replace a ticket
- RTE Forums- Wednesday, October 28th at 1:00 AM and Thursday, October 29th at 9:00 AM



For more information or to register contact Sandy Gunville at sgunville@missdig811.org or Patty Preston at pattyp@missdig811.org

Certification Training Offered via Webinar

In light of the Coronavirus outbreak and the need to keep social distances, MISS DIG 811 is offering its half-day 'Safe Excavation Practices' certification training via webinar. This 3-4 hour training will cover the same material that is currently offered through our video-based online training and in-person seminars. Upon completion, participants will be 'MISS DIG



811 Certified' on subjects ranging from ticket creation, locating information, Public Act 174, and more! State licensure continuing education credits are also available for a variety of excavation and municipal disciplines. Become a damage prevention expert from the comfort of your home or office! Sign up for an upcoming webinar today. Webinars take place every Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. To sign up go to [MISS DIG 811's learning management system](#). If you are a new user create an account. If not, login to your existing account. Under the **All** category, select the **Safe Excavation Practices Certification Webinar** orange learning tile. A window pops-up. Click on **See Details** of the Webinar selected for dates and times. Click on **Select Webinar** to enroll yourself.

Working in Multiple States

Excavators who work in multiple states must juggle a different set of utility safety guidelines for each state. Our neighbor to the south, Ohio, may use the same platform for ticket entry but have their own laws and regulations.

Excavation is defined as:

MICHIGAN: ...moving, removing, or otherwise displacing earth, rock, or other material below existing surface grade with power tools or power equipment, including, but not limited to, grading, trenching, tiling, digging, drilling, boring, augering, tunneling, scraping, cable or pipe plowing, and pile driving; and wrecking, razing, rending, moving, or removing a structure or mass of materials.

OHIO: ...the use of hand tools, powered equipment, or explosives to move earth, rock, or other materials in order to penetrate, bore, or drill into the earth, or to demolish any structure whether or not it is intended that the demolition will disturb the earth.

How far in advance can I place a request?

MICHIGAN: An excavator shall provide a dig notice to the notification system at least 72 hours, but not more than 14 calendar days, before the start of any blasting or excavation.



OHIO: At least forty-eight hours but not more than ten working days before commencing excavation, the excavator shall notify a protection service of the location of the excavation site and the date on which excavation is planned to commence.

The differences between Michigan and Ohio do not stop here. Each state has unique guidelines for the life of a ticket, scope of work, when to request a remark, and much more.

Educational programs like MISS DIG 811 Certification, Podcasts, and Toolbox Talks help excavators navigate through the wide range of topics that would help them be successful when working in Michigan.

Next month we will look at the safety guidelines for our neighbor to the west, the State of Wisconsin.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

TAKE THE MICHIGAN WORK ZONE SAFETY PERCEPTION SURVEY



Using your smartphone's camera,
scan the QR code below:



OR

Visit www.bit.ly/WZsafety2020.

For more information, visit our website at Michigan.gov/WorkZoneSafety



In late 2018, industry leaders and Michigan Department of Transportation teamed up to establish the Work Zone Safety Task Force. Aimed at improving work zone safety and reducing the number of injuries and deaths across the state, the task force is

comprised of seven Action Teams. Each Action Team represents a key objective in providing safer work zones for all stakeholders – from influencing driver compliance to balancing mobility and safety.

In early 2019, Action Team 6 of the Task Force issued a survey to all industry stakeholders to gather feedback on work zone safety and where improvements could be made. With the valuable information provided, we aimed to make changes that would ensure the safety of all on the roads.

Now, we're asking for your voice again. Help us continue to change the safety culture of our work zones by taking the survey to help tell us how we've done in the past year. We ask that organizations forward this survey to their employees, both field and office, through emails and links in employee paystubs. The corresponding flyer can also be printed and posted on jobsites – employees just need to scan the QR code with their smartphones to take the survey.

Work Zone Safety Survey

What is the WZSTF?

In 2018, industry leaders and Michigan Department of Transportation teamed up to establish the Work Zone Safety Task Force. Aimed at improving work zone safety and reducing the number of injuries and deaths across the state, the task force is comprised of seven Action Teams. Each Action Team represents a key objective in providing safer work zones for all stakeholders.

What is the Work Zone Perception Survey?

The goal of the Work Zone Perception Survey is to gather feedback on work zone safety and where improvements can be made. With the valuable information provided, the Task Force aims to make changes to improve the safety of all jobsites across the state of Michigan. All survey answers are anonymous and confidential.

By taking approximately 10 minutes to fill out the survey, you will help the Work Zone Safety Task Force continue to improve the culture of work zone safety within our industry.

MISS DIG 811 at the Gratiot County Wind Farm



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MISS DIG 811's Eric Urbain was the guest speaker at the Gratiot County Wind Farm at the request of Barlow Malow. It was the first large event of approximately 250 people that MISS DIG 811 has participated in, since COVID-19 restrictions, following steps to create a safe and healthy work event.

