

In the Trenches

Protecting Facilities, Families and the Future

May Newsletter 2021



14 Day Rule and the Busy Dig Season

Place your tickets early and make use of the 14-day window. Public Act 174 of 2013 requires a dig ticket to be placed three business days but not more than 14 days before excavation occurs. By placing tickets early, facility owners and their locators can plan ahead and will be better prepared for increased locate volume.

During peak digging season, MISS DIG 811 recommends that excavators take advantage of the 14-day notice and place tickets earlier than the traditional 3 business days so facility owners and their locators can plan ahead and be better prepared for increased locate volume.

MISS DIG 811

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

For our Remote Ticket Entry users, be mindful of the dig start field; use your scheduled dig start rather than the minimum three business days. If you place tickets through our online single address service, e-Locate, you will not see a dig start field since the legal dig start date and time cannot be determined until the MISS DIG 811 employee processes the e-Locate. However, if you are placing your tickets early using e-Locate make note of the actual dig start in the Additional Comments field.

If you create multiple tickets on the same day but do not plan on starting all the projects on the same day, please stagger the start dates on your tickets to better reflect when the project will begin. Remember, you can place a ticket up to 14 days in advance of your start date.

April's "Safe Digging Month" Contest

MISS DIG 811 wanted to show their appreciation for your commitment to keeping our communities safe!

The winner of the 65-inch flat- screen TV is

Laketon Township!



April was National Safe Digging Month, and MISS DIG 811 was asking for the support of municipalities and fire departments to remind their communities to contact MISS DIG 811 before any digging projects and sharing our message of safe excavation practices around buried facilities!

MISS DIG 811 wanted to revive this program to help spread awareness of the importance of contacting MISS DIG 811 prior to digging. Through this campaign, we can hopefully lessen the number of utility strike events, while at the same time provide an opportunity to enhance your fire station or municipalities.

[MISS DIG 811 Municipal Website Info](#)



MISS DIG 811 on Social Media



In honor of April being National Safe Digging Month and Arbor Day, MISS DIG 811 hosted a weekly Facebook contest for a free tree! All you had to do was message us your reason for planting a tree this year. A winner was selected from the entries each Friday in April. Congratulations go to our winners:



- Damian Polack from Ft. Gratiot - Rose of Sharon bush
- Cynthia Marie from Almont - Pink Double Knock Out Rose bush
- Alyssa Tyrell from Bad Axe - Willow tree
- Jenny Badgero from Posen - Rose of Sharon bush

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Spring is in the air, and summer is just around the corner! With the advent of warm weather, that means rental companies will be using stakes to put tents in the ground for events of all sizes, from festivals to graduations. With Covid-19 still in the air, restaurants will also be putting up tents to offer Covid-safe dining environments to comply with statewide orders.



Do the companies or individuals installing these tents have to place a dig notice with MISS DIG 811? The answer is a resounding yes! More importantly, the company doing the work should be placing these tickets themselves, and not trying to pass the responsibility onto homeowners or business owners by writing it into any agreement/contract. The reason for this is simple: Public Act 174, our state law for digging around underground facilities supersedes any contractual law. Whenever you are going to be doing any work that involves digging or simply disturbing the ground (like when you're inserting extremely long sharp stakes into the ground to hold down a structure), play it safe & contact MISS DIG 811!

Community Outreach Invitation

FREE, Would you like MISS DIG 811 brochures and posters?

Do you need some MISS DIG 811 brochures to refill the supply you were already given? Or if you have not received any, would you like some to make available or hand out to:

- Homeowners/Companies visiting your site
- Homeowners working outside their homes without contacting MISS DIG 811
- Companies working on a job site who have not followed MISS DIG 811 rules

Click on the MISS DIG 811 poster to order



Contact your Community Outreach Team:

Colleen Goddard cgoddard@missdig811.org or at 906-789-3083

Paul Harding pharding@missdig811.org or at 248-370-6426

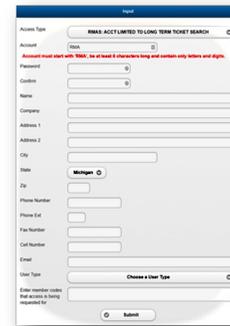


FULL TICKET SEARCH ADD-ON

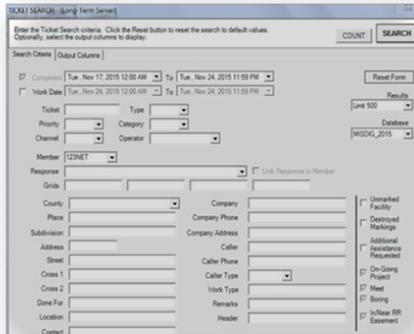
Users are able to view and query all MISS DIG 811 tickets placed in the last six years

Program Features

- Available to Members and Associate Members
- Direct access to search **ALL** tickets placed within the last six years
- Cost-equivalent of five two-month searches completed by the Research Department (\$362.25)
- Fees are capped at five full-search account



A screenshot of a web form titled "RMAS ACCOUNT TO LONG TERM TICKET SEARCH". The form includes fields for Account ID, Password, Confirm, Name, Country, Address 1, Address 2, City, State (with a dropdown menu), Zip, Phone Number, Phone Ext, Fax Number, Cell Number, and Email. There is a "Choose a User Type" dropdown menu and a "Submit" button at the bottom.



A screenshot of the "TICKET SEARCH" web interface. It features a search criteria section with dropdown menus for Company, Ticket, Priority, Channel, Member, and Response. There are date pickers for "Complete" and "Ink Date". A "SEARCH" button is visible. Below the search criteria are several input fields for detailed search parameters like County, Company, Phone, Subdivision, Address, Street, Cross 1, Cross 2, Date For, Location, and Contact. There are also checkboxes for "Unmarked Facility", "Destroyed Markings", "Additional Assistance Requested", "On-Going Project", "Meet", "Boring", and "New Bill Statement".

How it Works

1. Confirm you are a member or Associate Member of MISS DIG 811. If you are not, Member Services can assist in establishing membership.
2. Sign up for your full-search account today at https://newtina.missdig.org/newtinweb/rma_signup.html.
3. After accepting the user agreement, select the Remote Member Access Search (RMAS) access type and enter "add-on" for the member codes that access is being request for in the final field.
4. Complete the online training, and keep your Ticket Search User guide handy.
5. Each time you need a ticket or count of tickets, regardless of who placed it or which members received it, log into your RMAS account and provide the criteria for your search. Be sure to select the correct year because you have six years of ticket data just a mouse click away.

If you have questions regarding your MISS DIG 811 membership or this feature, contact Member Services at membersupport@missdig811.org or by phone at 800-482-7161.



e-Locate



- Place a Locate Request for a single address.
- When you will we digging within the next 3 business days to 14 calendar days.
- Cannot be used for planning purposes.
- Cannot be used as Emergency, Project, Joint-Meet, Short-Notice, or Marine tickets.



e-Locate

Request Underground Utility markings at a single address for an upcoming excavation project in the next 14 days.

Start



Remember to review your information before submitting the request. You will receive a confirmation ticket number once it's been processed.

Just a few things to remember when placing an e-Locate

- Must wait 3 business days for locating before beginning scheduled work
- One address per ticket Scope of work must stay within that address
- Must have one cross street that is different than street of address
- Use the proper abbreviation with location name, example: ST, RD, AVE, CT, LN, BLVD...
- Add location information for newer addresses in the additional comments

+resp emPOWERED

Brought to you by the Member Services Department

MISS DIG 811 aims to adapt to the ever-changing needs of our membership. One of the ways we aid members is through automated responses. The Positive Response system is a terrific way for facility owners to communicate with the excavator. Prior to beginning work, excavators must check Positive Response confirming all facility owners have responded. When a facility owner does not respond, the excavator is required to retransmit the ticket. In fact, a ticket must be transmitted if the excavator has reason to suspect the presence of an unmarked facility because there is visible evidence of a facility with no marks, lack of a positive response, or a response indicating the presence of a facility with no visible marks. Even facility owners exempt from the Section 7 requirement to mark the approximate location, need to respond to the excavator. Without a response indicating the exempt lines in the work area, the excavator would need to retransmit due to visible evidence of a facility with no marks. To ease the burden on members, MISS DIG 811 offers automated Positive Responses where the facility type and ownership make it possible under the law. Becoming familiar with these automated responses as a facility owner and excavator will improve your understanding of the features we offer our members and what you can expect when you see these responses on your MISS DIG 811 ticket:

012 **POSSIBLE ABANDONED FACILITY** There may be an abandoned facility in the proposed excavation area.

Automated Positive Response: (Facility type ABAN) The facility type is assigned to abandoned facility codes, which are used when a facility owner leaves the state without selling assets, files bankruptcy, or abandons a fragment of their facilities. An example of this would be the local gas company that replaces infrastructure while leaving the old infrastructure in place. The response



communicates to the contractor that there is infrastructure in the area that will not be located and to be mindful when hand-exposing.

019 WORK MORATORIUM DUE TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE To ensure there are no service interruptions to medical and temporary medical sites where there is work moratorium in place. If your work is essential and required to be performed, reach out to this entity directly.

Temporary automated Positive Response: (Facility type MED)

The facility type is currently used to protect the infrastructure that supports temporary medical sites at Ford Field and the TCF Center. The contractor needs to reach out to the City of Detroit directly if work is required.



010 EXEMPT FROM MARKING As defined in Public Act 174 Section 460.727 Sec. 7 (9). This is a system generated response.

Automated Positive Response: (Facility type EXPT) The facility type is available to drain commissions that are exempt from marking. The response communicates to the contractor that the storm drains in the area are owned by a county drain commission and will not be marked. Additionally, state

law requires the contractor to retransmit a ticket if they have reason to believe there is an unmarked facility; the response communicates there are unmarked facilities that would not require a RMXT.

020 WORKING NEAR A MDOT RIGHT-OF-WAY Please review the right-of-way maps at <https://mdotjboss.state.mi.us/BITMIX/rowMapFilesHome.htm>. If the project encroaches onto MDOT property, please contact the appropriate Transportation Service Center (TSC) for information regarding MDOT infrastructure. A Map and list of TSC Contacts is located at https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/Permit_Contacts_by_Office_661871_7.pdf

Automated Positive Response: (Facility type MDOT) The facility type is available to the Michigan Department of Transportation, which is exempt from marking; currently being piloted by their Marshall TSC only. MDOT is encouraging contractors to review the linked map and reach out to the local TSC.

204 DESIGNING NEAR AN MDOT RIGHT-OF-WAY Please review the right-of-way maps at <https://mdotjboss.state.mi.us/BITMIX/rowMapFilesHome.htm>. If the project encroaches onto MDOT property, please contact the appropriate Transportation Service Center (TSC) for information regarding MDOT infrastructure. A Map and list of TSC Contacts is located at https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/Permit_Contacts_by_Office_661871_7.pdf

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

RTE Forums

- Refresh your skills
- Join an RTE Forum Webinar



- Two RTE Forums held each month
- May topic: How to cancel & replace a ticket
- Open Discussion: Bring your ideas, issues, and questions for discussion
- RTE Forums- Thursday, May 20th at 1:00 PM and Tuesday, May 25th at 9:00 AM

For more information or to register contact:

Web Ticket Department at: webticketdept@missdig811.org

"Digging In" - MISS DIG 811 Podcast

Tune in to each segment of "Digging-In", hosted by MISS DIG 811's Education Specialist Eric Urbain. The programs will center around a particular topic or feature interviews with industry professionals or various facility owners/operators regarding damage prevention. New episodes will follow weekly on Monday's at 10am.

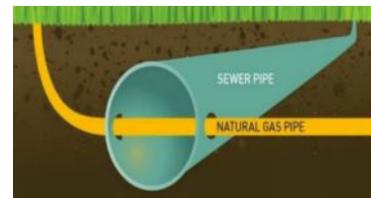
If you would like to be a guest on MISS DIG 811's "Digging-In" podcast or have a topic you would like to hear more about, please contact Eric Urbain at: urbain@missdig811.org

Follow the link below for the "Digging-In" archive of podcasts:

<https://digging-in.simplecast.com/episodes/episode-1-miss-dig-811-50-years-of-damage-prevention>



Cross Bore Awareness



Trenchless technologies, such as horizontal directional drilling, are very effective for the installation of underground facilities such as pipe, conduit, or cables and reduce the disturbance to roads, environmentally sensitive areas, driveways, and lawns. Installing facilities with trenchless technologies increases the risk of a cross bore.

A cross bore is an unintentional intersection of an existing underground facility or underground structure by a second facility as it is being installed. Because the trenchless drilling machine operator can't see the head of the boring equipment during tunneling, they rely heavily on accurate locates to show them the location of other existing underground facilities. Older sewer lines may be difficult to locate due to their non-metallic material or sewer lines may fall under the ownership of the private property owner and not marked as part of the MISS DIG 811 process.

Cross bore of a sewer line can result in an unintended sewer blockage that may cause a backup of wastewater into

buildings or homes creating dangerous consequences for residents. To clear these blockages, plumbers may choose to use a mechanical rotary tool, or root cutter, to clear a sewer line. This can damage a natural gas, electric, or communication line that may have been unknowingly inserted into a sewer line.

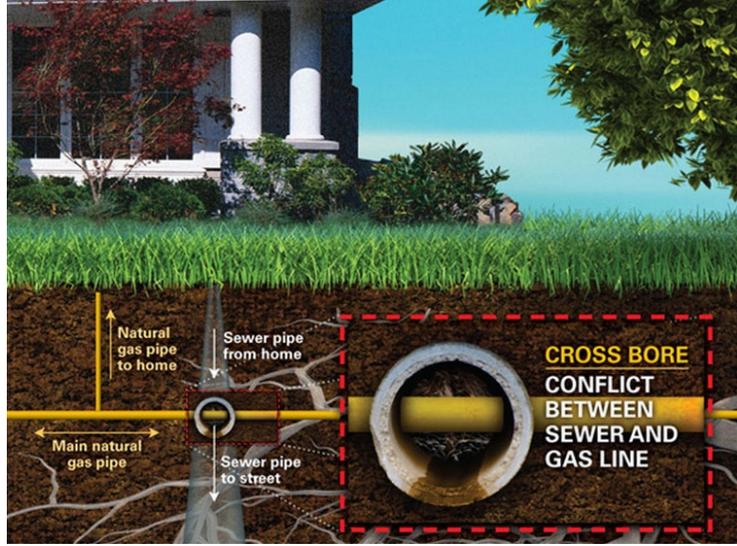
If another facility has been cross bored into a sewer line, the line may be cut when attempting to clear a blockage. If it is a gas line, gas will be introduced into

the connected structure. In a matter of a few moments, gas/air concentrations can reach the explosive range. Sparks from electric motors and switches or pilot lights for water heaters and furnaces can ignite the gas/air mixture with catastrophic results including explosion and complete destruction of the structure.

If electric lines are hit by the root cutter, shock of the operator can result in injury or death.

Other utilities used for communications normally will not cause immediate injury, but communication with emergency services such as police or fire departments is impeded. Delayed response then can result in loss of property, injury or death.

Please share the printable [2021 Cross Bore brochure](#) with anyone who would benefit from this information. Awareness will help prevent a dangerous situation.



© Copyright - Call Before You Clear

Weight Restriction Update



MDOT 2021 Spring Weight Restrictions Bulletin #8

Effective Monday, May 3, 2021, 6 a.m., weight restrictions will be lifted on all state trunkline highways within the entire state of Michigan.

Weight Restrictions are implemented during the spring frost thaw period and are now completed for the 2021 season. The anticipated timeframe for Spring Weight Restrictions is February through May. Specific dates will be determined by weather and road conditions and posted again when the 2022 season begins.

State trunk line highways typically carry M, I or US designations.

Weight Restriction information and updates may be obtained by calling 1-800-787-8960. For companies located in Canada or New Jersey, information may be obtained by calling 517-335-0023.

On routes designated as "All Season Routes" (green & gold on the MDOT Truck Operators Map), there will be no reduction in legal axle weight. On routes designated as "Seasonal"

(solid or dashed red on the MDOT Truck Operators Map), there will be a reduction of 25% for rigid pavements and 35% for flexible pavements.

Extended permits will be valid for oversize only in the weight restricted area.

Single trip permits will not be issued for overweight or loads exceeding 14 feet in width, 11 axles and 150 feet in overall length in the weight restricted area.

Detailed weight restriction information may be obtained by linking to www.michigan.gov/truckers. Please refer to MDOT Truck Operators Map for route designations.

If you have any questions, please contact Glenn Bukoski at glennbukoski@thinkmita.org, or Rachelle VanDeventer at rachellevandeventer@thinkmita.org, or call them at the MITA office at 517-347-8336.

MDOT Spring Weight Restriction
Bulletins

County Jurisdiction Road Restrictions

