



Proclamation

WHEREAS, as utility owners, excavators, designers, and homeowners work to keep pace with North Carolina's economic development, it is important to minimize damages to underground utility lines, danger to workers and the general public, environmental impact, and loss of utility services to the citizens of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina 811, a utility service notification center and leader in education celebrates its 46th year of continuous service to the State, is key to preventing injuries and damages when excavating; and

WHEREAS, this unique service provides easy, one-call notification about construction and excavation projects that may endanger workers and jeopardize utility lines while promoting workplace and public safety, reducing underground utility damage, minimizing utility service interruptions and protecting the environment; and

WHEREAS, this vital service, which began in 1978 serves the citizens of North Carolina from the mountains to the coast, educates stakeholders about the need for excavation safety whether the project is as small as planting a tree to designing and beginning construction on a new interstate; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the North Carolina one call system received 2.49 million notification requests and transmitted over 1.14 million requests, providing protection to utility companies infrastructure, their employees, excavators, and customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Richard Franks, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, has designated the month of April 2024 as

NORTH CAROLINA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH

to encourage all excavators and homeowners of Gastonia to contact 8-1-1 either by dialing 8-1-1 or contacting NC811 via the webpage of NC811.org at least three working days prior to digging in order to "Know What's Below," avoid injury, protect the environment, prevent millions of dollars in damages and to remind excavators that three working days' notice is the law, for safe digging is no accident, and that more information may be obtained by visiting www.NC811.org.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

Richard Franks, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk