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The Scoop

Call Okie Damage Prevention Quarterly Newsletter



With the new year, comes a new Damage Prevention Training Season

In 2014 Call Okie's Damage Prevention Team has teamed up with the Oklahoma Pipeline Awareness Liaison (OPAL) to spread the Damage Prevention message across Oklahoma. Call Okie and OPAL are collaborating together to share venues and audiences with our safety programs. This partnership increases attendance and lowers costs for both organizations. The Call Okie trainings are done in the mornings and OPAL's first responder training is in the afternoon. The attendees of both events share a catered lunch in between meetings.

Another advantage to this collaboration is that the Call Okie stakeholders are able to participate in both the meetings which adds value to each presentation and lets the attendees see the great relationship we have with our stakeholders/members.

Thus far in 2014, Call Okie/OPAL have conducted 10 training events reaching 385 attendees. Upcoming trainings are listed on the calendar on the Call Okie website at www.callokie.com.

A big THANK YOU!

Damage Prevention Councils

Our Damage Prevention Council volunteers work over 80 events a year reaching homeowners, farmers/ranchers and excavators. In addition, special training events continue to be coordinated to promote the Dial 811 message with the county employees and municipal workers. We couldn't do it without you! For more information on volunteering on a council, please contact Brenda Hoefar or Jerry West.

April is "Safe Digging" Month!

This April marks the seventh annual National Safe Digging Month, reminding Oklahoma residents to always call 811 or go online and submit a web ticket at least 48 hours before any digging project. Gov. Fallin issued a proclamation announcing April as Safe Digging Month in Oklahoma.

"As April marks the start of spring digging season, we are using this month to strongly encourage individuals and companies to call 811 or go online to www.callokie.com and submit a web ticket before they begin digging. Making this free call helps prevent injuries, property damage and inconvenient outages," said Susan Bohl, Executive Director for Call Okie. "Every six minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811."

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, necessitates a call to 811. Installing a mailbox, putting in a fence, building a deck and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that need a call to 811 before starting.

Northern Damage Prevention Events

Brenda Hoefar- Damage Prevention Manager, North

Red Carpet Council

Red Carpet Damage Prevention Council kicked off 2014 by participating with the Enid Agrifest on Jan 10-11. Thank you to: Jerry Logsdon, ONG, Todd Eitzen, Enable Midstream, Dee Radar, NWECC, Troy Cowley, OG & E and David DeBoar, Center Point Energy for working the Call Okie booth at this event. Over 40,000 people made it through the Chisholm Trail Expo Center, attending seminars, shopping for new products from more than 300 vendors and perusing the latest in agriculture implements. Agrifest is one of Red Carpet Country's largest events.

Tulsa Area Training

As part of our ongoing effort to educate Oklahomans, we offer adhoc safety trainings to any organization upon request. On February 20, the City of Broken Arrow invited Brenda to conduct 2 training classes for Broken Arrow's municipal workers. 94 municipal employees attended Brenda's training and learned the importance of "knowing what's below" and "Calling 811 before digging." Brenda has developed a great relationship with the excavators in Green Country and is asked several times a year to come re-educate different organizations about Call Okie. On March 12th, she conducted a safety class for the employees of the City of Tulsa.

Frontier Country

Frontier Country also had its first show of the spring, the Oklahoma City Home and Garden show March 21 - 23. This international expo facilitates the home owners and buyers giving them an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience with contractors, home renovation experts and decorators. At the same time this expo will also give the attendees an opportunity to get familiar with all kinds of home improvement techniques, ideas and products.

Gary Loeffelholz, City of Norman, Jim Zmek, ONG, Leslie Carter, Access Midstream, and Susan Bohl, Amy Copeland, Brenda Hoefar and Jerry West of Oklahoma One Call worked the Call Okie Booth during this event and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Cushing Lions Club

On January 18, Brenda was invited to be the speaker at the Cushing Lions Club. Brenda spoke about *The Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act* and the importance of using the state's One Call to protect Oklahoma's underground facilities and the citizens of Oklahoma. Cushing Oklahoma is known as the pipeline crossroads of America, which makes Brenda's "Call Before You Dig" presentation very important to the people in Cushing.



Green Country

March brought our first home and garden show in Green Country, the Tulsa Home and Garden Show, March 6-9. The 2014 Greater Tulsa Home & Garden Show offers everything you need for your home improvement project. It's the LARGEST and LONGEST-RUNNING Home and Garden Show in the state, with 500 exhibitors - it is THE home improvement event of the year for Green Country.

Members from the Green Country Damage Prevention Council who volunteered to work the Call Okie booth at this event were: Rebecca Barberousse, Valerie Garcia, Carl Brown, John Henckel, Randall Wontland, Jacob Forte and Lee Schluetor from Embridge, Gabe McCowen - Blue Knight, Lisa Fox - Level 3 communications, John Keck - SuddenLink, Allen Niblett - Arkansas Oklahoma Gas, Phillip Howery - City of Tulsa and Larry Stansifer - BP Pipeline. Brenda would like to extend a huge "Thank You" to all the volunteers for making this show such a huge success.

Southern Damage Prevention Events

Jerry West- Damage Prevention Manager, South

January

Call Okie continuously supporting USIC line locating contractors attending monthly meetings held in Oklahoma City and Broken Arrow.

- 1/15 - Public Education Damage Prevention Council Meeting Enable Service Center
- 1/17 - Operating Committee Meeting
- 1/24 - Sallisaw Public Works Meeting
- 1/29 - Strategic Alliance Committee Meeting in Cushing OK



February

- 2/18 - Jerry West was invited by the NE Technology Center in Pryor, OK. Attendees consisted of students in the electric, plumbing, mechanical and HVAC industry. Jerry encouraged attendees to incorporate Call Okie in the pre-design stages of their projects.
- 2/20-21 - Oklahoma Safety Council Retreat Sam Noble Ardmore, OK
- 2/2 - Greg Hambrick, Loss Control Instructor, Oklahoma Association Electric Cooperative, discussed 2014 safety programs for their employees. Jerry provided Greg with Dial 811 marketing brochures and excavator guides. Coordinated various safety meetings at their service centers.
- 2/26 - Strategic Alliance Committee Cushing, OK

March

OKC Area Training

Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Technical Conference was held at the Reed Center in MWC. Deborah Yager, Call Center Director and Jerry West presented a 45-minute session about the One-Call process, GSI and Call Center Operations.

Great Plains Country

The Great Plains Damage Prevention was an exhibitor at the Lawton Home Builders Association 50th Annual Home & Garden Show, March 21-23, located in the Lawton Coliseum. The event displayed numerous vendors' displaying home and lawn projects to over 5,000 homeowners, landscapers, farmers and many other potential excavators. GPDPC volunteers Jennifer Kritz - Cotton Electric COOP Walters, Judy McConnell and Teresa Crabtree - City of Lawton, Rick Hoskins and Travis Williamson - Centerpoint Energy McAlester educated and distributed information to homeowners advising them to DIAL 811 prior to their excavation projects.

- 3/11 - Common Ground Alliance Damage Prevention Conference Phoenix, Az
- 3/19 - Public Education Damage Prevention Council Meeting Enable Service Center
- 3/20 - APWA Central Branch Meeting OKC



Call Okie's 1st Annual Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony

On March 5th the Oklahoma One Call System Annual Meeting took place in Oklahoma City. A special part of the meeting this year was the recognition of our outstanding volunteers from the 6 damage prevention councils. These volunteers put forth extra efforts promoting Oklahoma One Call and going the extra mile for Call Okie's Damage Prevention Managers.

This year's outstanding volunteers by category were:

- Best Industry Resource:** Northern Region - Chuck Wood, AT&T
Southern Region - Jeff Hart, Cotton Elect Coop
- Best Creative Partner:** Northern Region - Rebecca Barberousse, Enbridge
Southern - Teresa Crabtree, City of Lawton
- Best Volunteer North:** Frontier Country - Gary Loeffelholz - City of Norman
Red Carpet Country - Troy Cowley, OG&E
Green Country - Lisa Fox - Level 3 Communications.
- Best Volunteer South:** Great Plains Country - Rick Hoskins-Centerpoint Energy
Chickasaw Country - Robert Moore-Marshall Rural Water
Kiamichi Country - Naomi Klumpp-BP

Dirt Diggin' Cups

A fun snack for all ages!



- 1 pkg Oreo Cookies
- 1- 3.9oz chocolate instant pudding
- 2 cups cold milk
- 8oz Cool Whip
- 24 gummy worms
- 8-10 plastic cups (8oz)

1. Seal the sandwich cookies in a plastic bag and crush them into tiny pieces.
2. Pour the milk into the mixing bowl and add the pudding mix. Beat with the wire whisk until well blended (about two minutes). Let pudding stand for five minutes.
3. Stir whipped topping and 1/2 of the crushed cookies into the pudding (very gently). Place about 1 tablespoon of the remaining crushed cookies into the bottom of each cup.
4. Fill cups about 3/4 full with pudding mixture. Top each cup with the rest of the crushed cookies. Add gummy worms and insects to decorate. Put cups into the refrigerator for about one hour to chill them-- and enjoy!

Upcoming Events!

Don't forget about all the great things going on in April to celebrate "Safe Digging Month"!

- Donate at any Oklahoma Blood Institute center for a chance to win (2) tickets to a NASCAR Truck Series race in June and a \$50 gas card!
- Visit one of the ten Atwoods stores for free popcorn and take your picture with our Okie cutout! (Enid, Cushing, Lawton, Bartlesville, McAlester, Shawnee, Claremore, Stillwater, Sapulpa, Vinita)
- Order a single-topping pizza any Monday in April from Marco's Pizza for only \$8.11!
- The Tulsa Oilers made it to the playoffs this year and Call Okie is the proud presenting sponsor! Try to make it to a game and cheer on the Oilers!

Safety Trainings:

- 4/4 - SW Farm & Home Expo, Elk City
- 4/8 - Tulsa County Safety Training
- 4/16 - Washington/Nowata/Eastern half of Osage County Training
- 4/17 - Major/Dewey/Blaine County Training
- 4/19 - Operating Committee Meeting
- 4/23 - Grant/Garfield County Training
- 4/25-27 - Shortgrass Rattlesnake Festival, Mangum
- 4/28 - MESO Conference, Norman
- 4/30 - Cleveland/McClain County Training



Call Before You Dig.

April is National Safe Digging Month.

Marco's Pizza has partnered with the 811 campaign to offer a **Large 1-Topping Pizza for only \$8.11** every Monday in April to remind Marco's customers to always call 811 a few days before digging. Calling 811 is the only way to learn which utility lines (gas, electric, phone, internet, water and sewer) are buried near your property. The utility operators in your area will mark the lines with paint or flags to help you know where to avoid when you begin your spring digging project.

You don't have to own a backhoe to make a phone call to 811. Small projects such as planting a garden or shrubs, installing a mailbox or putting in a fence should only start once you've made this easy, free phone call. The 811 campaign is promoted nationally by the **Common Ground Alliance**, the leading association that protects underground utilities and the people who dig near them.

For more information, please visit www.call811.com or for state specific information visit www.call811.com/state-specific.aspx.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

LARGE PIZZA
Cheese & 1 Topping

\$8.11

**Mondays
Only In April**

Please mention coupon when ordering.



Limited time offer. Price before tax. Delivery areas, charges & participation may vary by location. Not valid with other offers or deals. Before placing order online, enter Coupon Code **HD811**.



Dirt-y Jokes!



There were two guys working for the city. One would dig a hole, he would dig, dig, dig, the other would come behind him and fill the hole, fill, fill, fill. These two men worked furiously. One digging a hole, the other filling it up again.

A man was watching from the sidewalk and couldn't believe how hard these men were working, but couldn't understand what they were doing. Finally he had to ask them.

He said to the hole digger, "I appreciate how hard you work, but what are you doing? You dig a hole and your partner comes behind you and fills it up again!"

The hole digger replied, "Oh yeah, must look funny, but the guy who plants the trees is sick today."

We Dig Schools-Arbor Day

Alva, OK



This educational event was designed to raise pipeline safety awareness. The kids learned about calling 811, pipeline safety, the history of Arbor Day, how we locate our pipelines, underground electric safety, fire safety and got to see a fire truck and large excavation equipment up close. Participating companies were Call Okie, Access, Chesapeake Energy, SandRidge, Oneok, OG&E, Oklahoma Forestry, Alva Fire Department, Western Equipment, (Woods Co-Conservation, EM, Extension, 4H) Alva Tree Board and NWOSU.

A big thanks to the four mascots that made it out; Okie, Smokey Bear, Sparky, Rowdy Ranger!

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