

CONTACT MISS DIG BEFORE YOU DIG

Michigan's MISS DIG Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act (Public Act 174) requires anyone, including homeowners, to call 811 or visit [MISS DIG 811](#) at least 3 business days before starting any excavation or digging project. This free service ensures utility lines are marked to prevent damage, service disruptions, and safety risks.

Key Legal Requirements:

- **Timeframe:** Notice must be given at least 3 business days (but not more than 14 calendar days) before starting, excluding weekends and holidays.
- **Scope:** Applies to any project, no matter how shallow, including planting trees, installing fences, or landscaping.
- **Responsibility:** The excavator must wait for utilities to mark lines (via flags or paint) before digging.
- **Excavation Method:** If working within 4 feet of marks, hand-digging is required to prevent damage.

Consequences of Non-Compliance:

Failure to follow these rules can lead to significant fines, costly repairs, and liability for damages to underground utilities.

Steps to Take:

1. **Mark the Area:** Use white paint or flags to mark the area where you plan to dig.
2. **Contact 811:** Call 811 or submit a ticket online at [MISSDIG811.org](#).
3. **Wait:** Allow 3 business days for underground lines to be marked.
4. **Dig Safely:** Use caution and hand-dig within 4 feet of marked lines.