



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Kimberly Swope
(804) 314-8369
kswope@VA811.com

Thursday, August 11th is 811 Day!

National Safe Digging Day is August 11th (or 8-11 on the calendar) – a reminder to always contact Virginia 811 before you dig and an annual campaign that recognizes all workers who keep our utilities safe while digging.

[August 8, 2022] Whether you're a homeowner with a shovel or a professional excavator using mechanized equipment, contacting Virginia 811 Before You Dig is vital to safety. It's often a surprise to homeowners that simple projects like landscaping, fencing or even installing a mailbox can be dangerous and disruptive when digging without knowing where underground utility lines are located. Knowing where these underground utility lines are before putting a shovel in the dirt helps prevent injuries, property damage and inconvenient service outages.

Did you know that buried utilities are hit every few minutes in the U.S.?

Striking a single line can result in serious injuries, service disruptions and costly repairs. Before starting any digging projects - no matter how large or small, it's important to contact Virginia 811 to submit a dig request online at VA811.com or by calling **811**. Contacting Virginia 811 is free and easy.

"Our primary goal at Virginia 811 is to keep Virginians safe when digging. 811 Day is a great reminder to homeowners and professional contractors alike to contact 811 before digging to help eliminate the risk of striking an underground utility line," says Scott Crawford, President and CEO for Virginia 811, "It really is the only way to know where public utilities are buried in your area."

Virginia 811 advises all homeowners and professional excavators to "Dig with C.A.R.E." and follow this simple set of steps designed to keep you safe:

- Contact 811
- Allow time for marking (3 working days)
- Respect and protect the marks
- Excavate carefully

Virginia 811 will hold its **3rd Annual VA811 5K Virtual Run** to Benefit Construction Angels Virginia which kicks off on August 11th and runs through September 8th. Registration is free and participants are eligible to win various prizes including a chance to win \$811 by simply posting a photo showing them in the 5K on

Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag **#iRun4Virginia811**. In addition, participants who donate \$8.11 to Construction Angels Virginia will receive a VA811 26 oz. aluminum water bottle and a Construction Angels Virginia mood band. Construction Angels Virginia is a worthy organization that helps families who have lost loved ones due to accidents at construction sites.

Virginia 811 has also partnered with Papa Johns Pizza and Smith Motorsports this year to promote 811 Day with a special 811 Day pizza deal. By using the promo code **811DEAL**, users will receive a "Buy Any Large Pizza, Get One Large Cheese Pizza for \$8.11" offer redeemable at 27 Hampton Roads locations, as well as 21 Richmond and Charlottesville locations. The promotion runs from August 1st - August 15th.

For more information on Virginia 811, 811 National Safe Digging Day, or Construction Angels Virginia can be found [here](#).

For further details, or to schedule a media interview, please contact Kimberly Swope, Brand and Communications Supervisor for Virginia 811 at kswope@va811.com or call (804) 314-8369.

About VA811 Virginia Utility Protection Service, commonly called Virginia 811, we are the not-for-profit organization created by Virginia's utilities to protect their underground facilities.

Find more information and safe digging practices at www.va811.com