

Summer 2002

Ticket Volume

January
29,827

February
28,441

March
30,487

April
35,962

May
35,925

June
31,987

FAQ

Does Alabama One Call actually mark the utility lines?

No, many excavators mistakenly believe that Alabama One Call is responsible for the actual marking of facilities. This is not the case. Each member facility owner or their contract locator is responsible for ensuring that their facilities are properly marked.

Remember to CALL BEFORE YOU DIG, it's the law

Notification to underground facility owners is required by the Alabama Underground Damage Prevention Act 94-487. Many utilities can be notified through their membership with Alabama One Call. The excavator is required to contact all underground facility owners directly if the underground facility owner is not a member of Alabama One Call.

Alabama One Call (AOC) is a non-profit organization established to provide a centralized notification system as a means to safeguard against injury and loss of life, to protect public services and to prevent damage to underground facilities by providing for prior notification of excavation and demolition activities in the State of Alabama.

Below is a portion of the legislation regarding penalties and fines when compliance with the law has not been properly followed:

Alabama Act 94-487 **Section 10. Civil Penalties**

- (a) Any person who violates any provision of this act shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each such violation.
- (b) Any action under this section shall be instigated by any person making a complaint in writing, verified by oath, that said person has reason to believe that a violation under this act has occurred.
- (c) Prosecution of violations of this act shall be by district attorney or the attorney general and shall be brought in the circuit court for the county in which the violation, or some part thereof, arose or in the circuit court for the county in which the defendant resides or maintains his principal place of business in the state.
- (d) The amount of such penalties shall be dependent upon the degree of non-compliance, the amount of injury or the damaged caused, the degree of threat to public safety, the degree of public inconvenience caused as a result of the violation, and the number of past violations. Mitigation of the penalty may be shown by "good faith" efforts of the violator to have complied with the provisions of this act.

For a complete copy of the Underground Damage Prevention Act 94-487 visit our website at www.al1call.com.

Utility Coordinating Councils

Currently there are Utility Coordinating Councils in Jefferson/Shelby County, Limestone/Morgan County, and Cullman County.

Congratulations to Jo Somers, City Engineer, City of Madison for organizing Madison County & Huntsville area UCC and Robert Spicer, Network Engineer, Frontier Communications for organizing Escambia/Monroe County UCC. A great deal of interest has been expressed to organize programs in Montgomery, Mobile and Baldwin Counties before year's end.

The UCC is a continuous opportunity to foster cooperation, coordination and communication. It encourages the exchange of information between Utilities, Excavators, Contract Locators, Governmental Agencies, County Economic Development Offices, Alabama Department of Transportation, Municipalities and Regional Planning Commissions to discuss pending and upcoming projects among representatives of all parties.

Examples of topics discussed at the UCC monthly meetings include the following:

- Damage prevention through communication and cooperation between all parties.
- Major commercial and residential projects under construction
- DOT projects
- Joint trenching projects
- Rebuilds/Upgrades and extensions of existing underground utilities
- Development of standards accommodating utilities within common corridors.
- Coordinating future projects and maintenance improvements
- Promote safe digging practices as required by Alabama Act 94-487 and calling Alabama One Call to notify member utilities of 48 hours prior to excavating.
- Reduce damages to underground facilities and loss of vital utility services to the community

If you are interested in starting a UCC in your County please contact Michele Dory at 205-414-1846 or email: mdory@al1call.com for information.

Monthly Meeting Schedule

Jefferson/Shelby	Third Tuesday
Limestone/Morgan	Third Thursday
Escambia/Monroe	First Wednesday
Madison/Huntsville	Second Thursday
Cullman County	Quarterly, First Wednesday



Welcome To Our New Members

As our membership continues to grow we are proud to introduce our newest members for the first half of 2002. To request a membership kit or additional information, contact Tina Creel, Operations/Human Resources Director, at 205.414.1840 or email: tcreel@al1call.com.

CenturyTel of Alabama

has purchased Verizon.

Columbiana Water Board

to protect their water lines in the city of Columbiana in Shelby County.

Alabama Department of Transportation

The Birmingham office has joined to protect their fiber optic lines.

VAW Water System

to protect water lines in Cullman, Lawrence, Morgan and Winston Counties.

Vernon Water and Sewer Board

has water and sewer lines in Lamar County.

Broadwing Communications

has fiber optic lines in downtown Birmingham.

Roanoke Telephone Company

provides telephone service to areas in Chambers and Randolph Counties.

Monroeville Water Works

to protect their water lines in and around the city of Monroeville in Monroe County.

Gulfstream Natural Gas System

to protect gas transmission lines in Mobile County.

Tenaska Alabama Partners, LP

has joined to protect their water lines in the Billingsley area in Autauga County.

Shelby Woods Senior Housing, Inc

to protect their gas lines on their housing complex property in Columbia in Shelby County.

ProCall

is a new associate member, they will be locating for Telepak.

For a complete statewide listing of Alabama One Call's members, log on to our website at www.al1call.com.

Contractor Awareness Meetings

Decatur Utilities, BellSouth, Joe Wheeler EMC, Limestone County Water Authority and BP Pipeline sponsored a Contractor Awareness Breakfast at the Holiday Inn in Decatur in February. The guest speaker was Spencer Brady, Pipeline Safety Training Officer with the Alabama Public Service Commission. A "Dig Safely" presentation by Alabama One Call followed. Several door prizes and giveaways were given out to the contractors in attendance.

Mobile Gas sponsored a Contractor Awareness Meeting with an evening cookout at the Mobile Gas Corporate Offices in the month of June. In addition to a presentation by Brad Pitt, Bill Gardner and Kevin Saucier of Mobile Gas, a "Dig Safely" presentation was made by Alabama One Call.

We will keep you informed of other Contractor Awareness Meetings as they are scheduled later in the year via your local utility companies, this newsletter, and on our website www.al1call.com.



When I call Alabama One Call for a locate request, the CSR reads a list of utilities that Alabama One Call will notify. The CSR then instructs me to notify any non-members on my own. Why do I have to make those additional calls?

Alabama’s law does not currently require mandatory membership in Alabama One Call.

Underground facility owners are given the option to either participate in AOC or have an in-house program that meets some of the same operational requirements as are placed on Alabama One Call.

Therefore, if the utility chooses not to participate in Alabama One Call, an additional telephone call to them directly is required.



Alabama One Call
P.O. Box 1476
Birmingham, AL 35201



CALL TWO WORKING DAYS BEFORE YOU DIG

800.292.8525 or 252.4444 (B’ham)

When calling in a locate request have the following information available:

- Company Telephone Number, Name and Address
- Caller Name
- Work Type
- Work Being Done For
- State, County, City/Town
- In/Out City Limits
- Location-Street Address
- Nearest Intersecting Streets/Roads
- Exact Area to Locate (Be specific)
- Type of Work
- Will jobsite be outlined in white paint?
- Will boring or blasting be done?
- Is job site at a Railroad Right of Way?
- Work Date and Time excavation is scheduled to begin

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