

FOR EXCAVATION & TELECOM CONTRACTORS

# ONE WRONG DIG CAN END YOUR BUSINESS.

Most contractors never do a real pre-dig risk review. They call 811, assume the marks are accurate, and move forward — without knowing the hidden risks that exist on every job site.

**\$150K+**

INDUSTRY AVG. STRIKE COST

**\$222K**

MAX OSHA FINE PER INCIDENT

**70%**

STRIKES ARE PREVENTABLE

**1 in 50**

JOBS ENCOUNTER A LINE

RISKS THAT EXIST ON EVERY JOB SITE

## YOUR 811 TICKET IS JUST THE FIRST STEP.

Calling 811 is required by law — but it only covers public utilities. Utility marks are approximate. Depths can vary. Private lines are **not** located by 811. And locate tickets have expiration dates. Knowing all of this before you dig is how professionals protect their crews and their business.

### APPROXIMATE MARKINGS

Paint marks indicate a utility's general location — not exact position. The standard tolerance zone is 24" on each side of the mark. Hand digging or potholing is recommended near any mark.

### PRIVATE LINES NOT COVERED

811 locates public utilities only. Private gas, electric, fiber, and water lines — including service laterals — require separate verification before any excavation begins.

### TICKET EXPIRATION

In Colorado, locate tickets expire after 20 business days. Always confirm your ticket is current and all utilities have responded before breaking ground.

### UNDERSTANDING THE POTENTIAL COST OF A UTILITY INCIDENT

Utility Repair Costs	Repair crew, equipment and materials	\$10K – \$100K
Regulatory Fines	Federal agency penalties per incident	Up to \$222K
Project Delays	Stop-work orders and crew re-mobilization	\$5K – \$25K/day
Injury & Liability Claims	Workers comp, legal fees, settlements	\$250K – \$2M+
Reputational Impact	Lost bids and strained contractor relationships	Long-term

ESTIMATED TOTAL EXPOSURE FROM A SINGLE INCIDENT:

**\$500,000 – \$2,000,000+**

# WHAT WE DO BEFORE YOU DIG.

We review your project and provide a clear, actionable risk report before excavation begins — so your crew can work with confidence and your business is better prepared for every job.

## 1 811 TICKET VALIDATION

We review every ticket for completeness — verifying active status, utility responses, and expiration dates before work begins.

## 2 ZONE-BY-ZONE RISK SCORING

We assess every segment of your route — trench, bore path, vaults, pedestals — and assign a clear risk rating your crew can act on.

## 3 RED FLAG REPORT

Potential conflicts, private lines, missing responses, and drawing discrepancies are identified and reported before excavation starts.

## 4 FIELD RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend specific precautions for your job: where to hand dig, where to pothole, and where vacuum excavation is advisable.

### COMMON QUESTIONS — ANSWERED HONESTLY.

#### Q "I called 811 — I'm good to go."

A Calling 811 is the required first step. A pre-dig review helps identify additional site-specific risks — private lines, expired marks, depth variations — that 811 alone may not address.

#### Q "A risk review isn't in the budget."

A A pre-dig review is a small investment compared to the potential costs of an incident — including repairs, delays, and regulatory attention.

#### Q "We've always dug without a review."

A Many jobs go smoothly. A risk review simply gives your crew more information about site conditions, helping them make better decisions in the field.

#### Q "We don't have time for extra steps."

A Our reviews are fast and delivered before mobilization. A brief review upfront can prevent much longer delays if an incident occurs on site.

### COLORADO REQUIRES 3 BUSINESS DAYS NOTICE BEFORE EXCAVATION. KNOWING YOUR SITE RISKS IN ADVANCE TAKES YOU FURTHER.



State law sets the minimum requirements. A pre-dig risk review goes further — giving your crew site-specific information to work more safely and confidently.

- > Locate tickets have expiration dates
- > Depth markings are approximate
- > Private lines require separate verification

- > Marks fade and shift over time
- > Site conditions can change after marking
- > Our review helps your crew plan ahead

READY TO WORK WITH MORE CONFIDENCE ON EVERY JOB?

## DON'T LEAVE YOUR NEXT JOB TO CHANCE.

Send us your 811 ticket, scope of work, or site drawings.  
We'll deliver your Pre-Dig Risk Review — fast, clear, and ready for the field.

[REQUEST YOUR PRE-DIG RISK REVIEW ->](#)

[info@utilitystrikeprevention.com](mailto:info@utilitystrikeprevention.com)

833-231-3222 | Toll Free

This report is for informational and planning purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice or a guarantee against utility strikes. Always follow applicable laws and exercise independent professional judgment on site.