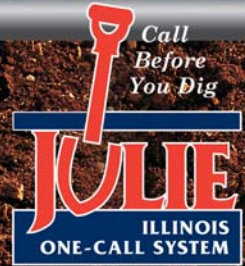


# Between the Lines

Contractor Newsletter

SPRING/SUMMER 2007



## JULIE, INC. LAUNCHES 811



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

As part of its ongoing commitment to make safe digging as convenient as possible, JULIE, Inc. recently announced the launch of a new national 811 "Call Before You Dig" number to help prevent homeowners and professional excavators from damaging underground utility lines while digging and causing injury or service outages. Coverage of the launch on May 1 reached more than 2 million people in Illinois.

"Knowing where utility lines are buried before each digging project helps protect those who dig from injury, expense and penalties," said Mark Frost, executive director of JULIE, Inc. "The 811 number is especially beneficial to people who are working near our service boundaries and are not sure which one-call center they should contact. One easy phone call gets the approximate location of underground utility lines marked for free."

In addition to JULIE's existing telephone number (800-892-0123), 811 is a new FCC-

designated national N-11 number that assists excavators with reaching the one-call center. This quick and efficient one-call service notifies the appropriate member utilities, who then send locators or locate technicians to the requested site to mark underground lines for free.



*Kevin Chmura and Barb Huff of JULIE, Inc. attended the national launch of 811 on the National Mall in Washington D.C. The event also served to introduce the new 811 Mascot, BUD (Before U Dig).*

"Safe digging is no accident. Regardless of the project size or depth, always call 811 before you dig," Frost continued. "Call center representatives at JULIE are available to receive and process calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

To ensure that all Americans know and use 811, a press conference was held on the National Mall in Washington D.C. The event, held on "America's Front Yard," also kicked off a national public

education campaign, which will use an educational Web site ([www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com)), television and radio public service announcements (PSAs), industry and consumer outreach, and local events to raise awareness of the new number and demonstrate its relevance to consumers and professionals who conduct digging activities.

### Free Campaign Materials Available

*With the addition of the new 811 number, JULIE's outreach and campaign materials have an exciting, new look highlighting the "Call Before You Dig" safety message. Members and contractors are encouraged to spread the news about the safety campaign.*

*For copies of free education materials with the JULIE safety message and phone number to complement outreach efforts to your employees and customers, please visit [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com) or call 815-741-5000.*



## Quick Digs

### Latest News Delivered With Breakfast

More than 20 excavator safety meetings were held across the state to promote safe digging practices and the importance of calling JULIE, Inc. The breakfast meetings, hosted by JULIE, Inc. and its members, featured our Damage Prevention Managers highlighting the latest industry news, discussing the potential impact of 811, addressing frequently asked questions and reviewing the state law and policies.

We appreciate the ongoing support of contractors across the state, our members and statewide organizations. The NIPA and SIPA provided the \$100 cash prize at each meeting. We would also like to thank our alliance partners from OSHA and the State of Illinois Onsite Safety and Health Consultation Program for their assistance.

### More Room to Grow

Representatives of JULIE, Inc. and its Board of Directors held a groundbreaking ceremony for its facility remodeling and office addition project in Joliet. The Honorable Tim Brophy, Joliet City Council (2nd District), also attended the ceremony.

"As one of the largest industry one-call systems in the United States, we are excited about the expansion and remodeling of



*Members of the building committee attended the groundbreaking event with the JULIE staff.*



*Dave Van Wy of JULIE, Inc. responds to a question about safe digging practices.*

our facility in Will County. This essential project will allow JULIE to better serve our employees, excavators and member utilities in Illinois," said Mark Frost of JULIE, Inc. "With more than 1,700 utility members and 100 employees, our not-for-profit organization handles more than 1.2 million locate requests from excavators on an annual basis."

The project will include the addition of 3,000 square feet for a new training center, office space for quality auditors and data personnel, new storage space and a safe room for emergency situations. Also included will be the remodeling of the call center and general office space throughout the building.

The facility remodeling and office addition project is expected to be completed this winter. An open house will be held next year.



*Joliet City Councilman Brophy (from left), JULIE Executive Director Mark Frost and Board President Tom Stutzman from ComEd, break ground for the building expansion.*

## Damage Prevention Managers Provide Answers & Education

JULIE's Damage Prevention Managers - **Dave Van Wy, Dale Kuhn and Ray Muhs** - are available to present safety seminars and answer your questions regarding the state law, JULIE policies and other issues.

In addition to conducting excavator safety meetings throughout the state and representing JULIE at conferences, conventions, trade shows and meetings, Dave, Dale and Ray are available for safety presentations at your facility or work site.

**For more information, or if you have any questions about JULIE and its initiatives, call the appropriate Damage Prevention Manager listed below:**



### Northern Region

David Van Wy  
Office: 847-963-0387  
Cell: 815-351-5002  
E-mail: vanwy@illinois1call.com

### Central Region

Dale Kuhn  
Office: 217-698-0813  
Cell: 217-725-0904  
E-mail: kuhn@illinois1call.com

### Southern Region

Raymond Muhs  
Office: 618-662-2118  
Cell: 618-843-2513  
E-mail: muhs@illinois1call.com

## Mapping The Future

JULIE, Inc. recently announced the release of a new, enhanced method for excavators to enter locate requests called Newtin Remote Ticket Entry (RTE). Newtin RTE provides all the functionality that currently exists in OCARS WRTE, plus new features that allow the viewing of a map on which a dig site can be identified to improve the locate request process.

"More than 40 percent of the locate request tickets are now entered directly by professional excavators," said PC/Telecom Support Manager Lynette Exline. "Web Remote Ticket Entry is a free of charge, unique and convenient

feature that provides excavators with a method of entering locate requests directly into the JULIE system via an Internet Web site."

Excavators who want to continue to enter locates from their offices using the new method will require retraining. Training sessions throughout the state will be held during the upcoming months. For more information or to schedule a free training session, contact the JULIE Data Department at 815-741-5011 or call the appropriate JULIE Damage Prevention Manager directly.

*Contributing: Greg Fisch, JULIE, Inc.*

## Polygon Feature Taking Shape

The recent conversion from the OCARS to the Newtin locate request processing computer has resulted in several new features and functionalities for damage prevention stakeholders in Illinois. In addition to an improved remote ticket entry interface for excavators, improved quality analysis programs for staff and helpful map tools for call center operators to pinpoint on or draw a polygon around a jobsite, Newtin also offers a feature that will allow JULIE members to represent their underground facilities using polygon shapes.

"We are happy to announce that the member facility polygon functionality of the Newtin system has been tested, implemented and is currently being used by several members," said JULIE Director of Computer Operations Greg Fisch. "Members can now submit shape files that represent their facility coverage area. This new method of facility area representation is intended to replace member grid facility representation with the result

being a reduction in non-conflict tickets being sent to participating members."

Members wishing to move to polygons have options to provide their information. For companies having digital data in a GIS system, JULIE can import simple shape files that can typically be produced from those systems. As an alternative, JULIE can work with a member to hand-draw facility polygons onto a map. Regardless of the input method used, members have the ability to review the facility polygon area for positional accuracy prior to the polygon becoming active.

For more detailed information on providing electronic data to JULIE for import, contact GIS Specialist Burt McAlpine at [mcalpine@julie1call.com](mailto:mcalpine@julie1call.com). To set up an appointment at the JULIE facility in Joliet to have facility polygons hand-drawn, contact Database Manager Debi Andre at [andre@julie1call.com](mailto:andre@julie1call.com).

*Contributing: Greg Fisch, JULIE, Inc.*

# Safe, Sound & Underground

Every day in the United States, several million cubic feet of natural gas travel through an underground pipeline delivery system to 64 million customers. The natural gas is extracted from deep inside the earth via producing wells and then into gathering pipelines. These smaller pipelines eventually feed into the large transmission pipes, typically 26 to 42 inches in diameter, that crisscross the nation.

Because such large volumes of natural gas must be transported, the only feasible way to do so is through underground pipelines.



## Where Are The Pipelines?

JULIE's pipeline members install above-ground markers to indicate the approximate location of buried large diameter, high pressure transmission lines. These line markers display the name of the pipeline operator and the telephone number where the operator can be reached in case of an emergency. Line markers are placed at public road crossings except in urban areas. Pipeline markers and warning signs indicate only the presence of a pipeline. They should not be used or relied upon to determine the exact location of the pipeline.

## Are Underground Gas Lines Safe?

Yes, safety is the number one priority of America's natural gas industry. Federal pipeline safety codes require that distribution systems comply with requirements for design, construction, testing, inspection, operations and maintenance from the point of connection to the point of transmission, up to and including the gas meter.

## How to Recognize & React to a Gas Leak

Gas leaks can be very dangerous, potentially resulting in a deadly fire or explosion, so be sure to know the signs of a gas leak and what to do in an emergency.

According to industry safety materials, there are three ways to detect a leak:

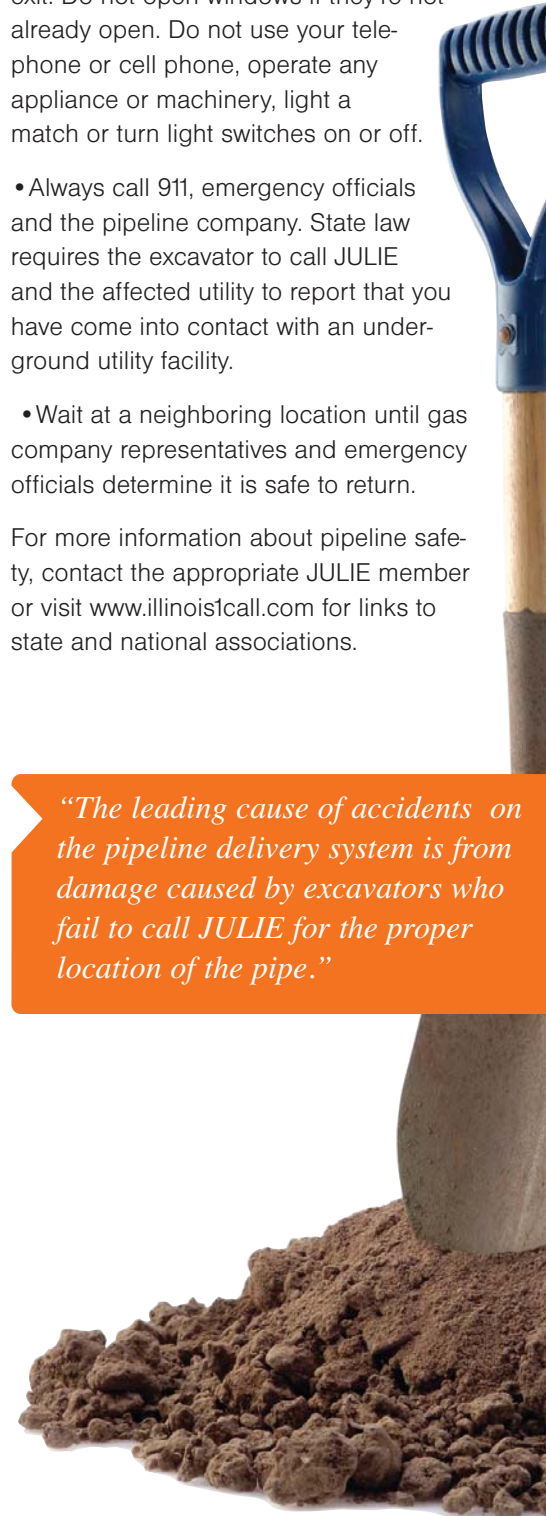
- Smell – natural gas is injected with a distinct odor, which many people equate to that of rotten eggs.
- Sight – visible blowing dirt, bubbling water or discolored vegetation near a buried natural gas line.
- Sound – a hissing or blowing sound.

## If You Suspect a Gas Leak, Follow These Steps:

- Exit the building or area immediately, leaving doors and windows open as you exit. Do not open windows if they're not already open. Do not use your telephone or cell phone, operate any appliance or machinery, light a match or turn light switches on or off.
- Always call 911, emergency officials and the pipeline company. State law requires the excavator to call JULIE and the affected utility to report that you have come into contact with an underground utility facility.
- Wait at a neighboring location until gas company representatives and emergency officials determine it is safe to return.

For more information about pipeline safety, contact the appropriate JULIE member or visit [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com) for links to state and national associations.

*“The leading cause of accidents on the pipeline delivery system is from damage caused by excavators who fail to call JULIE for the proper location of the pipe.”*



# Safety First

Each year, gas transmission pipeline incidents are caused by damage from construction or other excavation activities. Unfortunately, people may be injured by these types of incidents and millions of dollars of property and the environment can be impacted.

“Gas transmission lines are typically the larger pipelines that operate at the highest pressures,” said Gina Meehan of Ameren Services. “When gas transmission lines are dug into, they may not leak immediately, but they eventually may fail. Since these lines are large and operate at high pressure, any leakage creates an instant emergency.”

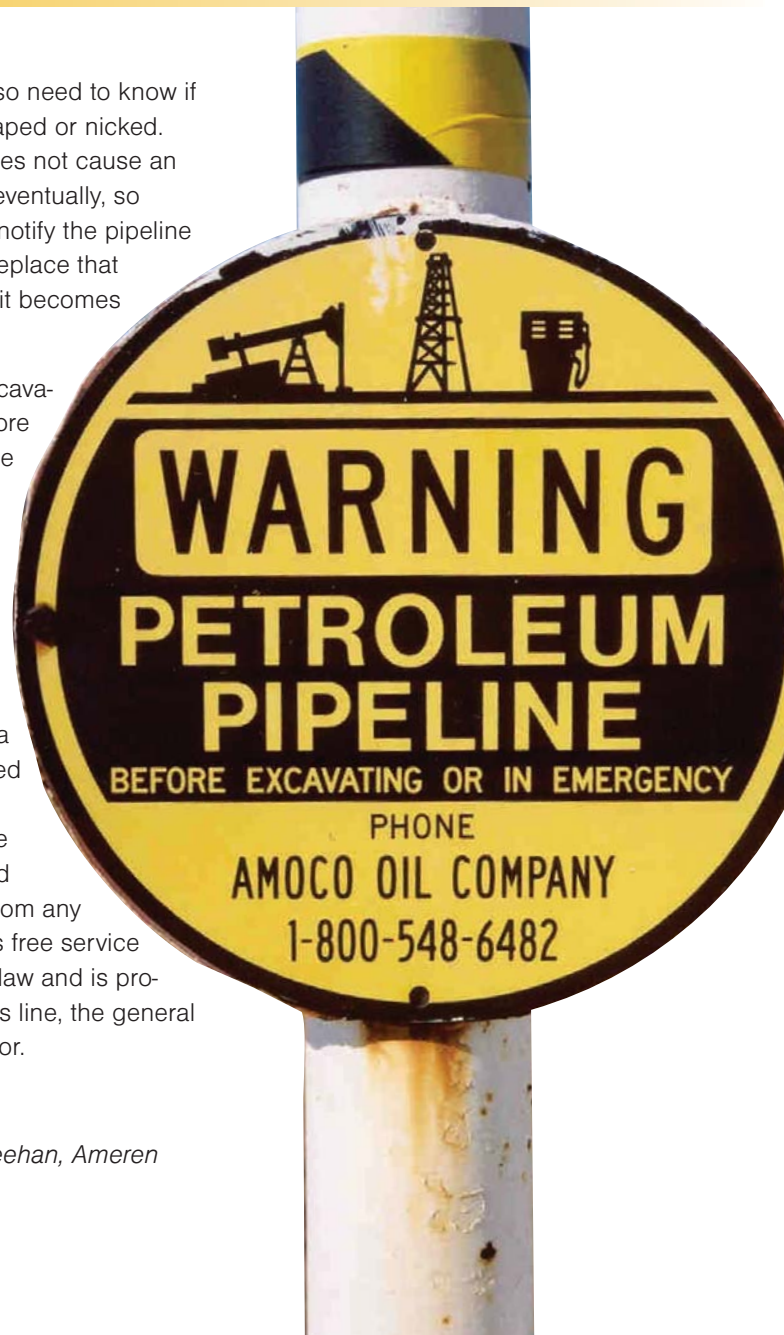
There are miles and miles of pipelines under the ground. The steel pipe is wrapped with a coating that varies in color to keep it from corroding. If that coating gets scraped off by a shovel or a backhoe, that area becomes a breeding ground for corrosion. Corrosion on a pipeline will eventually become a leak and possibly an explosion. All companies that own underground pipes need to know when the coating and/or pipe become damaged to ensure the safety of the excavator, the community and the pipeline. Please call the phone number on the nearest pipeline marker or call JULIE to determine who owns the pipeline to report any damage.

“There is also plastic gas pipe in the ground,” Meehan continued. “A tracer wire is installed at the same time as the plastic pipe to ensure that it is locatable by a locator. If that wire gets damaged or broken, it is not possible to locate that section of pipe without digging for it.”

Pipeline companies also need to know if the pipe has been scraped or nicked. Even if the damage does not cause an immediate leak, it will eventually, so please call JULIE and notify the pipeline company to repair or replace that section of pipe before it becomes an emergency.

In addition, after an excavator contacts JULIE before digging, he/she may be contacted directly by pipeline company representatives if the project is located near a transmission gas line. If digging adjacent to or over a gas transmission line, a representative may need to be on site when digging. Excavators are encouraged to respond promptly to any calls from any pipeline company. This free service is required by Federal law and is provided to protect the gas line, the general public and the excavator.

*Contributing: Gina Meehan, Ameren Services*



*“The pipeline infrastructure is the nation’s safest energy delivery system according to U.S. government statistics.”*



Call Before You Dig

3275 Executive Drive  
Joliet, IL 60431

PRSRTD STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
JOLIET, IL  
PERMIT NO. 125



## Between the Lines

Between the Lines is published by the JULIE Public Relations Department. The contents in this publication are for informational purposes only.

Comments and story ideas should be directed to Kevin Chmura, editor, at 815-741-5000 or [chmura@illinois1call.com](mailto:chmura@illinois1call.com).

To receive this publication via e-mail, please visit [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com). Designed by Gammon Group



## Always Open

JULIE's Web site ([www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com)) continues to serve as an excellent resource for members and excavators seeking more information about the system and safe digging practices around the clock.



### Other highlights on the Web site include:

- Utility Company Contact List
- Copy of the State Law
- ICC Enforcement Process Information
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Board and Staff Directory
- Upcoming Events and Activities
- Free Education Materials

### Spread the Word!

Are you looking for a way to share this publication with your coworkers? Spread the news and sign up today at [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com). For more information, call Barb Huff at 815-741-5936.

# 811 Garners Local, State & National Web Coverage

