



## RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Our new web-based and mobile-friendly **Excavation Safety Resource** is always at your fingertips. This helpful resource contains more information than previously available in the Excavator Handbook with several additional benefits, including a Spanish language version, 24/7 availability and searchable content. We encourage you to save the resource to your smart phone for easy access.

We also added a new feature to our website, **JULIEbeforeyoudig.com**. Simply click translate when you go to the site for a Spanish language version.

Enter An Online Request 24/7

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Remote Ticket Entry (RTE) Webinars**  
May 11 - 9 am  
May 17 - 1:30 pm  
May 26 - 9 am  
No cost.  
[Register or learn more.](#)



## JULIE OFFERS NEW ONLINE TRAINING

More than 300 professional excavators have registered for our new **JULIE Essentials for Excavators course** since its launch last month. This free, online training course is tailored for professional contractors and other stakeholders wanting to learn more about the JULIE process, best practices for damage prevention in Illinois and the one-call law. This 90-minute training can be accessed from any computer, tablet or mobile device and contains engaging animations and interactions. The course has been approved for IEPA Water and Wastewater training credits. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register to take the course.

## ONE CALL AWAY

Our **Damage Prevention Managers** can answer your questions about the safe digging process, assist with the planning of projects and mediate discussions to help you and your crew avoid potential injuries and costly delays. They can also talk to your employees at job site tailgate or toolbox talks meetings and **safety trainings**. If you are experiencing locate issues, [click here for a list of several member contacts who can assist you.](#) JULIE personnel do not locate or mark any underground utility lines.



Regardless of when a project starts, JULIE wants to remind anyone digging of a few very important steps to take before digging in:

- **Always pre-mark** your proposed excavation route or site. By pre-marking the area of excavation, you can help clarify the information on the locate request, allow your crew to visually verify the dig area when they arrive at the site and compare that information with the locate request. [Click here for recommended guidelines.](#)
- Provide adequate time to have underground utility lines located and marked – **Contact JULIE at least 2 business days** before starting your project. Do not simply default to the minimum 2 working days advance notice if not needed. If your proposed excavation project requires multiple locate requests, stagger the dig start dates and times or stagger the dates the tickets are called in or submitted online. Submitting multiple tickets all with the minimum 48-hour advance notice places an undue burden on the utility locate staff. [Enter an online request now.](#)
- Never use mechanized equipment near buried utilities or pipelines – carefully hand dig within 18 inches on either side of the marked approximate location of the buried underground facilities. [Learn more about the tolerance zone.](#)

[Click here for frequently asked questions](#) and follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter @JULIE1call.

## BE PREPARED

Our call center is staffed with agents to receive and process locate requests, but longer-than-usual hold times may occur, especially during peak times. If you still choose to call in a locate request, it is important to be prepared with the proper information and remember that we are always open, day or night. Contractors can avoid potential delays in the center by using our [online E-Request entry page](#) anytime to submit a locate request with no training required.

Utility members are required to respond to all locate requests received within the time explicitly specified by [state law](#). We encourage you to only submit tickets that you fully intend to excavate on within the next 2-14 days. Additionally, please confirm that ALL member utilities listed on your locate requests have been marked before beginning excavation. [Click here for information about the Illinois Commerce Commission's enforcement process.](#)

Another popular self-service option is [Remote Ticket Entry \(RTE\)](#). Webinar trainings typically last one hour, after which attendees can start entering their own locate requests 24/7. [Register for an upcoming no cost RTE Webinar](#) or contact our [RTE Support Group](#) at 815-741-5011.



## BOARD ANNOUNCES ADVOCACY AWARD

In recognition of Gina Meehan-Taylor's tireless and passionate work as a damage prevention advocate in Illinois, the JULIE Board of Directors established a [damage prevention advocacy award](#) in her honor. This award was created to recognize Gina's efforts to protect underground utilities, the people who work around them and the entire state of Illinois. The award recipient will receive a certificate of recognition and a \$250 gift card. An honorary donation will also be made in the winner's name to the Jim

Meehan & Gina Meehan-Taylor Charity Golf Outing. All nominations must be submitted electronically no later than May 31. [Read more on award criteria and the nomination process.](#)



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