

ALEXANDER CITY GAS DEPARTMENT
Post Office Box 552 – Alexander City, Al 3501
Telephone (256) 409-2070 – Fax (256) 409-207

February 14, 2014

To: All Excavating Contractors
From: The City of Alexander City Gas Department

Subject: Underground Damage Prevention

This letter is intended to inform you of the damage prevention program that has been implemented by the *City of Alexander City Gas Department*. This program is designed to help reduce the risk associated with excavation damage to buried gas pipelines. The purpose of this act is to safeguard against injury and loss of life due to excavation damage or demolition and to protect underground facilities from costly damage and the interruption of utilities or other services to the general public. **Excavation damage is the leading cause of gas pipeline accidents.**

In addition, the State of Alabama has damage prevention laws established by the Alabama Legislature in 1994. (Act no. 94-487) Persons responsible for excavation, blasting, or demolition are **MANDATED** to give a 2 day/48 hour notice prior to the excavation job planned. Even something as simple as installing a mailbox or planting shrubs or trees requires notification. Weekends and holidays are not included in the 2 day/ 48 hour notice. You can notify the **Alexander City Gas Department** by calling us directly at (256) 409-2070 or calling the Alabama One Call Center by dialing **811**. By Calling the Alabama One Call Center, not only will the gas department be notified, they will also notify the water, cable, sewer, electric and telephone companies. **The responsibility for notification falls totally on the excavator, not the property owner.** The excavator could be charged by the Alexander City Gas Department for damages that result from excavation where no locate was requested and could also face civil penalties for not reporting the intent to excavate. These penalties could be up to \$10,000.00 for each violation.

If you call in locate requests often, the Alabama One Call Center has a website, <http://alticketentry.korterraweb.com/Login.aspx>, where you may manually enter your own locate request any time of the day or night. The web address above will give you information on how the system works. You will have to request registration so they can assign you a login and password.

The Alexander City Gas Department is asking you to please take the time to notify either the Alabama One Call Center by dialing **811** or entering your own request at least **48 hours** prior to any planned excavation activity. If the excavation activity was not planned, and is the result of an emergency, Alabama 811 will send out an emergency notice in which the utilities are given two (2) hours to mark their utility lines. In cases where notifying Alabama 811 is not possible or has been overlooked, please call the Alexander City Gas Department directly and we will locate our gas lines as quickly as possible. The intent of this program is to insure that the excavators, the utility workers, and the general public are all kept safe.

Thank you for your support with this ongoing endeavor!

Sincerely,

Mike Stewart – Superintendent
Alexander City Gas Department

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Call  before you dig.

<http://www.the811promise.com/#take>

