



# Call Before You Dig

1- 800-DIG-SAFE



Working Together for Safety in Kansas

KOC Excavator/ Member Newsletter

1-800-DIG-SAFE

Winter 2004

## *Map DataBase Updates*

As KOC continually strives to provide utility members and excavators with the best possible service and quality, we are delighted to tell you about our latest enhancement that will take place during 2004 and 2005. Kansas One-Call has contracted with a third party to improve the quality of the land basemaps that KOC uses in the call center and the new ITIC internet solution. KOC is aligning the TRSQ, road network and the member polygons to the USGS 7.5 min Quad maps. These changes will eliminate a buffer that has been used since 1995 that compensated for the discrepancies in all three layers of map and member data. KOC is modifying 12 of the 105 counties in the state. These 12 counties account for 80% of the incoming locate requests and will result in a higher quality ticket for the member. The remaining Kansas counties will be updated once the original 12 are complete and on-line.

New center-line street data is currently in the pipeline from Tele Atlas North America, formally GDT and from county, municipal and other reliable sources. Once the data is received it must be formatted to work with our system or it must be digitized manually from paper maps which can be a very time-consuming process.

## **Use White Flags to Mark Your Dig Site**

When the excavation site cannot be clearly and adequately identified on the locate ticket, the excavator is encouraged to designate the area of excavation with white paint, flags and/or stakes prior to the arrival of the utility locator. Pre-marking allows the excavators to accurately communicate to the facility owners/operators or their locator where the excavation is to occur. When you call Kansas One-Call tell the operator that the area has been white lined. They will put that information on the locate ticket to inform the locator that the area has been whitelined. This form of communication greatly increases timely locates and reduces marking areas of a large locate request, lots, mobile home/business parks and large landmasses in rural areas. White flags can be purchased through Kansas One-Call by calling (316) 687-2102 or while you're phoning in your locate request. They cost \$5.00 (plus tax) for a bundle of a hundred.

# *Dig Safely*

Four important steps to keep in mind before starting any excavation project include;

- 1). Make the call.**
- 2). Wait the required amount of time.**
- 3). Respect the markings.**
- 4). Dig Safely**

## *Open House*

Kansas One-Call will be holding their Open House on Friday December 10th, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the call center located at 8100 E. 22nd Street North in Wichita, KS.

Come and tour the call center and meet the operators that handle your locate requests. We will have plenty of food, as well as holiday cookies and treats made especially for you by the personnel of the one-call center.

The call center is located in NE Wichita. From K-96, exit Rock Rd and proceed south to 22nd street. Turn east into the Tallgrass Business Park and look for building 2300. We will have the front decorated with locate flags.

As part of the Open House, we are again holding a **food drive** for the needy and request all attendees to bring a contribution (canned/boxed goods, etc.)—please pass on the word!

# ITIC

**Kansas One-Call is continuing to roll out the newest cutting edge software application for filing locate requests.**

### What is ITIC exactly?

ITIC or 'internet ticket', is a cutting edge software application for filing locate requests. It will allow you to:

- Enter pertinent ticket information.
- Determine the extent of your utility notification area by drawing a polygon around your excavation site with the help of our advanced mapping tools.
- Receive a list of all utilities affected in your excavation area (who are notified within minutes of your entry of the ticket information).
- Receive your ticket number with a click of a button!

### What are the benefits of using ITIC?

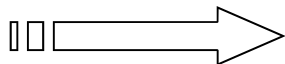
- You will be able to file locate requests anywhere you have an internet hookup.

Now you are in control of mapping your own excavation area.

- As fast as you type in your information is as fast as you can receive your ticket number - you will be more productive and able to file locate requests in a timely manner.
- Easy to learn, easy to file - every excavator has the opportunity to take a training class from our ITIC Training Specialists.
- Options to view, retransmit and print a ticket are available at any time of the day or week!
- This is a FREE service offered by Kansas One-Call.

### How do I sign-up to start using ITIC?

- Please contact David Butler at [ksitic@occinc.com](mailto:ksitic@occinc.com)



## Call Center Statistics

Call Volume 2002 thru 2004

Month	2002	2003	2004
Jan.	31,480	32,113	26,181
Feb.	27,622	24,523	26,069
Mar.	38,312	36,286	46,527
Apr.	49,982	44,189	47,990
May	48,276	41,228	41,584
June	42,994	39,996	47,267
July	48,548	41,970	43,288
Aug.	47,500	40,223	45,282
Sept.	45,521	42,048	43,685
Oct.	45,846	43,628	38,632
Nov.	37,612	30,329	
Dec.	32,806	26,590	
Total	496,499	443,123	406,505



## Kansas One-Call Website

Our website is continually changing & being updated. To stay fully informed year around, keep checking back often to get the latest information about Kansas One-Call, the law, our services and other important information about Call Before You Dig and Digging Safely.

Check us out: [www.kansasonecall.com](http://www.kansasonecall.com)

"ITIC is a great tool. It lessens my work load. I love the fact that I have control over the drawn polygon. If you know nothing about computers you will still have no problems with ITIC. I wish that ITIC was available years ago!"

— Kansas Gas Service - Wichita, KS

Well folks, why not send us an email and schedule a demo/training session today. **No one knows where you are digging better than you and it's FREE!!** Training sessions can be held at your location or at the call center. All you need is a computer, internet access and you will be filing locate requests in no time.

**Remember to Call Kansas One-Call TWO Full Working Days BEFORE YOU DIG!**

**Note: As of January 1, 2003, the day you call, does not count towards the required wait time.**

## *2005 Holidays*

Kansas One-Call is always open for business, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, including the following state holidays, which are:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day After Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

Even though Kansas One-Call is open and will accept your locate request it is important to remember, these holidays will not be included when calculating the "Two Full Working Days". So, please plan ahead and Happy Holidays.

## **Excavator Manuals**

From laws to definitions, this book has it. The current "Excavator's Manual" is now available on the internet. Just go to [kansasonecall.com](http://kansasonecall.com). On the main page you find the headline "2003 Excavator's Manual" just place your mouse on "Click here to browse the manual" (You will need adobe acrobat reader to view and print this file).

## **Dig Safely**

## **FAQ**

### **I'm a general contractor and I have several subcontractors working for me, can I call in all the locates for my subcontractors?**

No. Each excavator or subcontractor who moves any type of earth must call in their own notification request and maintain all associated documentation. Kansas law states in Statute 66-1802 (d) "Excavator" means any person who engages directly in excavation activities within the state of Kansas, but shall not include any occupant of a dwelling who: (1) uses such dwelling as their primary residence; and (2) excavates on the premises of such dwelling.

### **I am a professional excavator and I'm working for a homeowner on their property. Do I have to call for a locate request or can a homeowner call?**

State law requires that every excavator planning on moving any earth or doing any digging call in a locate request themselves, see definition above.

### **Do I need to maintain documentation at the excavation site?**

KOC promotes the use of record retention by both the excavator and facility owners. Documentation may include your KOC ticket number, maps, photographs, etc. Keeping accurate and adequate documentation is the responsibility of the excavator, and it's vital information to have on site if marks become destroyed or there is a damage.

### **Why do I need to keep the KOC ticket number?**

It is official documentation that a call was made in case of damage or controversy. The ticket number is also important to have if an excavator needs to call back to have marks refreshed or if locates for a particular job have not been furnished.

## *2005 Contractor Education Meeting Update*

Kansas One-Call is currently working on the schedule for the 2005 excavator safety meetings. If you have not attended one of these meetings, please plan to attend one this next year. It is expected that more changes are coming. Our 2005 meetings will start in late January and end in April. We will mail invitations two to three weeks prior to each meeting showing the location, time, and asking for RSVP's with the number attending. Our mailing list is taken from our caller database, **so please verify that your mailing address is correct when you call.** We are attempting to combine invitations to include multiple choices of locations to attend, and we will also put the schedule on our web page. These meetings allow Kansas One-Call and our utility members to interface directly with excavators around the state. Kansas One-Call provides a meal, a safety video, slide presentation and door prizes at most locations. Area utility members and a KCC representative are usually attendance to answer questions during the meetings.



## Other News

### Ticket Classifications

On January 1st, 2003 Kansas One-Call started accepting the following locates requests.

- Emergency - Any condition constituting a clear and present danger to life, health or property or service outage.
- Routine - Locate request that follow the state statute time limits, requiring two full workings days notice.
- Non-Response - Locate request to be sent to the utility notifying them that they have failed to respond to mark the area within two workings days as prescribed by law.
- Meet-on-site - This request filed by the excavator instructs the utility that the area cannot be defined easily and that in order to have the area marked accurately the excavator wants to be present on site to give further marking instruction to the locator. Note: Filing a meet-on-site request may allow the locator up to four days to meet and mark the area, not including the day the call was made. A total of five days.
- Survey/Engineering Locate - See Excavators Manual

## Who Call's

**Protect yourselves and your property against underground utility damage and liability.**

Find out where the underground utility lines might be buried before you dig. Anyone digging in Kansas must call before digging. The *person who is doing the work* is responsible for calling KOC.

If the *property owner* contracts with a professional excavator to do the excavation then the *professional excavator* is responsible for calling KOC. You (the excavator) will need to provide information about the work site when you call. This is a **FREE** service.

Each excavator is required to have their own ticket. You may not use someone else's ticket to legally excavate in the State of Kansas.

Kansas One-Call is committed to serving it's membership and providing excellent notification services for all excavators, promoting damage prevention, and protecting the public welfare.