



# Call Before You Dig

1- 800-DIG-SAFE



Working Together for Safety in Kansas

KOC Excavator Newsletter

1-800-DIG-SAFE

Winter 2005

## *Locate Request Updates*

Beginning September 1st, Kansas One-Call made a modification on how old a ticket can be and still be updated. We have noticed that several excavators have been updating excavation notices that were originally filed a year or more earlier. As of September 1st, you no longer are able to update a ticket that was originated or last updated 45 days or more from the last update or original filing date.

As of January 2003, the state law was changed to make clear the life of the locate request. **"The notice of intent to excavate or any subsequent updates shall be valid for 15 calendar days after the excavation start date and such notice shall only describe an area in which the proposed excavation reasonably can be completed within the 15 calendar days"**.

In order to keep the locate request valid for excavation for any period longer than the 15 calendar days of the original request, the excavator shall file an "update" with Kansas One-Call no later than the 12th calendar day from the initial excavation start date and the 12th calendar day of any subsequent "update".

However, once a ticket has expired, a ticket more than 45 days from the last request, you will no longer be able to use the last ticket number for that location to update the ticket life. A whole new ticket will be required for that excavation location.

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## **Come Share The Fun!!!**

Kansas One-Call's Annual Open House is scheduled for Friday, December 16th, 2005 from 10a-2p.

As in the past, the KOC staff will be preparing a veritable feast of home-cooked food! We will offer tours of the call center and give everybody a chance to meet the call center staff, along with the KOC Board of Directors and Operating Committee.

The call center is located in northeast Wichita. The address is 8100 E. 22nd St. N., Building 2300. The office is just north and east of the intersection of 21st St. N and Rock Rd.

Each guest will receive two special gifts this year just for participating! ***All we ask is that you bring a non-perishable food item*** to donate to our food drive to help the needy in the Wichita area. All contributions will be donated to a Wichita Food Bank. Please help us help others! We hope to see you on the 16th of December.

## *Dig Safely*

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

**1). Make the call.** Before you begin any project that requires excavation, the person who engages directly in excavation activities within the state of Kansas is required by state statute to call Kansas One-Call to file a notice of intent to excavate two full business days prior to commencement of excavation activities. Using someone else's ticket is not allowed for by state statute. Each individual or company must have their own locate request.

**2). Wait the required amount of time.** State law requires that the excavator shall serve notice of intent to excavate at least two full working days, but not more than fifteen calendar days, before commencing the excavation activity, on each operator/utility having underground facilities located in the proposed area of excavation. The operator/utility then is required by law to have

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## *Use of Explosives*

This is a question that is asked each and every time you file a locate and extreme care should be used when responding.

Several utilities face special risks when explosives are used during the excavation process. Apart from the marking of the underground utility, the utilities perform a "pre-explosive survey" and a "post explosive survey" to determine or verify that ground movement caused by the use of explosives has not caused a "shearing" effect on the underground pipe or conduit.

Explosives are mainly used for blasting rock formations in the path of a trench or the placement of poles or foundations.

If you are unsure whether explosives will be used or not, check with the job foreman or supervisor before you file the locate request.

## *Dig Safely (continued from page 1)*

the proposed area of excavation marked (paint and/or flags) with the appropriate colors designating which type of utility it is within 48 hours or two working days from the time that the call was placed with Kansas One-Call. For safety reasons, if the area is not completely marked, the excavator should place another call to Kansas One-Call to get the utilities to mark their lines.

**3.) Respect the markings.** Each time an area is marked, the state statute allows for a marking "Tolerance zone" which means the area within 24 inches of the outside dimensions in all horizontal directions of an underground facility. This tolerance zone has also been interpreted to be a hand dig zone, no mechanized equipment should be used within 24 inches of the markings or the outside dimensions of the underground facility. In other words, if the underground facility is 24 inches in width (pipeline or duct bank) this tolerance zone is now 6 feet wide.

**4.) Use safe excavation practices.** Upon arrival at the excavation site prior to beginning the excavation, verify that the dig site matches the one-call request and verify that all facilities have been marked. Use pictures, videos, or sketches with distance from markings to fixed objects for documentation. Review the location of underground facilities with site personnel. Have the ticket number and other needed information on site, such as, phone numbers of all facility owners and the one-call center number in case something unexpected happens. Use extreme care to avoid damaging underground facilities. Adhere to all applicable federal and state safety regulations. Protect and preserve the flags or marking of the underground facilities. Have an observer on site to assist the equipment operator when digging near known underground facilities. Respect the "Tolerance Zone". If an unmarked facility is discovered, contact the facility owner directly and ask them to remark the area. Support and protect all exposed facilities from damage.

## *FCC Adopts 811*

On April 13, 2005 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released an order designating 811 as the nationally abbreviated dialing code to be used by State One-Call notification systems for providing advance notice of excavation activities to underground facility operators in compliance with the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002.

As a result, the Common Ground Alliance (CGA), a 1,200 member inter-industry group that promotes the safety of pipelines, power and telecommunications cables and other underground facilities, has been assigned the responsibility of generating a national campaign to promote the awareness of 811.

Kansas One-Call is currently working with telecommunications providers in the state to coordinate the implementation of 811 by the deadline date of April 13, 2007.

811 will be an ***additional*** means of contacting KOC for locate requests as KOC ***will continue*** to use the current toll-free number (1-800-DIG-SAFE), our local number (687-2470), web-based ITIC locate requests and fax-a-locate.

Currently KOC expects to begin this implementation with some of our telcom providers during the first quarter of 2006.

Continue to watch for announcements on our progress through our website and newsletters.

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

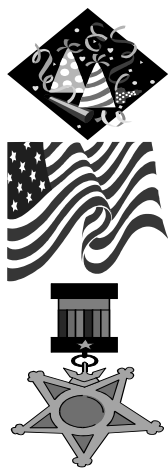
## *2006 Holiday Schedule*

### *Please Plan Ahead!*

New Years - January 1st  
Day after New Years - January 2nd  
Memorial Day - May 29th  
Independence Day - July 4th  
Labor Day - September 4th

Please keep these Holidays in mind when scheduling locates! Jobs that need to be started directly after the Holiday must be called into the center before the Holiday keeping in mind the Holiday is not calculated in the two business day notice required by Law.

**Center will be open on these dates, but the date will not be used when calculating start dates.**



## *ITIC*

**What is I-Tic exactly?** I-Tic 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 I-Tic?**

- 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 employee has the opportunity to take a training class from our I-Tic 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 I-Tic?**

- Please contact the call center for further details at 316-687-2470 or 800-DIG-SAFE.

## *Locate Request Update...Continued*

**Keep in mind** that state law also states that “**no person shall make repeated requests for remarking or updating unless the request is due to circumstances not reasonably within the control of such person**”.

In other words, updating a ticket repeatedly without any excavation taking place just to keep a ticket open or valid is a **violation** of the state law. Utility owners have and will report these types of violations to the Kansas Corporation Commission for action.

## **Dig Safely**

Have you visited our website lately?

Check it out!

[www.kansasonecall.com](http://www.kansasonecall.com)

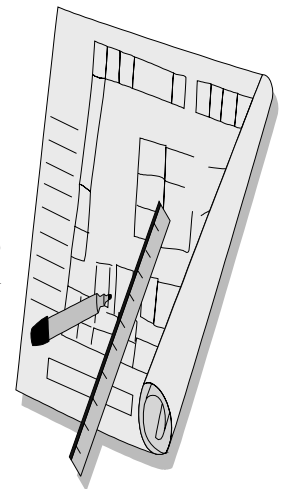
## **KCC Regulations**

For the past several years the Kansas Corporation Commission has been trying to add a few regulations to augment the Underground Utility Damage Prevention Statute. Currently these regulations are on hold. The KCC will continue to work on this document during 2006. For more information contact Leo Haynos at 785-271-3278.

## *What's the Size of a Locate Request?*

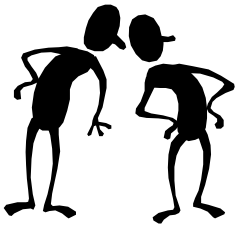
Several members have expressed concern regarding the size of area included on a single locate request. Our general policy is that a single locate shall contain only a single address, unless the work to be done is continuous (i.e., main installation, highway project, etc.) and does not cross county boundaries. Therefore, if telephone drops, mailboxes, water services, etc. are being installed at individual addresses, each address will be put on a separate locate request. Kansas One-Call's goal, however, is to make sure that all locate requests are filed. Therefore, if a caller does not have detailed information, is requesting a meet on site, or is particularly defiant and ready to dig without a locate, call center management will use its discretion on the size of area to be included on a single request. If the information seems vague and/or incomplete, the caller will be informed that we cannot guarantee that the area will be located and that the caller is responsible to confirm that the entire and correct area is located.

Should member companies require further information prior to locating or require the area to be broken down into more requests, the caller should be instructed by the member to re-contact the call center.



**Kansas One-Call System, Inc.**  
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Wichita, KS 67226

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## Other News

### White Flags

When the excavation site can not 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 white-lined. 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 your phoning in your locate request.

## KOC Extends Contract

Kansas One-Call is pleased to announce the extension of the service contract for operations of the call center for another three years, beginning January 1, 2006 to One Call Concepts.

One Call Concepts began operations of the call center in 1987. One Call Concepts provides underground utility notification services for the states of Kansas, Missouri, Texas, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, Montana, North Dakota, Louisiana, Maryland, Delaware and will begin operations for the states of Hawaii and New York Long Island on January 1st, 2006.

### **Kansas One-Call Mission**

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