



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, each year, the nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage by those who fail to call 811 to have underground lines located prior to digging, resulting in undesired consequences such as service interruption, damage to the environment, and personal injury or even death; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Ground Alliance and its 1,400 members promote the national "Call Before You Dig" number, 811, in an effort to reduce these damages; and

**WHEREAS**, designated by the FCC in 2005, 811 provides potential excavators and homeowners a simple number to reach their local one call center to request utility line locations at the intended dig site; and

**WHEREAS**, through education of safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money, and help keep our nation safe and connected by making a simple call to 811 in advance of any digging project, waiting the required amount of time, respecting the marked lines by maintaining visual definition throughout the course of the excavation, and digging with care around the marks; and

**WHEREAS**, as safe digging is a shared responsibility - to know what's below, call 811 before you dig;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2014 as

## *Safe Digging Month*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this fifteenth day of January, 2014.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Vignetti*

Secretary of State