

# How do I join?

Becoming a member of Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. is **easy**. Please call 800-248-1786, extension 7168, or send an email to [membership@pa1call.org](mailto:membership@pa1call.org). Our friendly and helpful Member Services representatives will start the process by putting you in contact with a Liaison in your area, who can answer all of your questions and assist with completing the necessary paperwork.

**What does it cost?** Our cost for services are less than you expect. We provide service at no cost under the Law to political subdivisions with a population of less than 2,000, or municipal authorities serving a population of less than 5,000. Larger entities receive a refund on service costs funded by the professional excavator community; in 2023 this refund was approximately 45%.

**Why should I be a member?** Two words: Public Safety. Anyone planning to disturb the earth with powered equipment (such as a backhoe or directional drill) in the Commonwealth of PA is obligated, via PA Act 287 of 1974 as amended, to notify utility companies of their intent to excavate. This happens by dialing 8-1-1. Pennsylvania 811 receives the call, collects information about the excavation, and forwards it to owners of underground utility lines nearby.

We cannot send a message to you if you are not a member. What would happen if you did not know about the excavation at Fourth & Main Street – and your traffic loop was damaged? Our mission is to prevent damage to underground utilities. Your participation in the system via membership ensures that excavators and the general public are safe from unknown excavations in your community.

**How do I know if my municipality is a member?** Our website: [www.paonecall.org](http://www.paonecall.org) has a list of members. Choose the <Information> menu, then the <Facility Owner List> option. From there, choose the <County> and <Municipality> name. The website will show a list of all registered members. Are you on the list? If not, please talk to one of our Damage Prevention Liaisons about membership.

**How does it work?** We maintain a database of members and the communities where members have underground lines. When an excavator intends to dig in a community and places a “One Call” with us, we notify member facility owners in that community via email or modem. The member receives all of the information we’ve collected about the excavation site, and is responsible for letting the excavator know where their underground lines are located near the excavation site. This is done with colored paint, flags, or stakes. Each color represents a different utility type – e.g. orange paint indicates a communications line, such as a traffic loop.

**Are there any other benefits?** Yes! You can use information about every excavation in your community to cross reference other services you provide, such as building and street opening permits.

Municipalities or authorities that do not join One Call **forfeit the right to recover costs** in the event their facilities are damaged during excavation. Non members are not notified, placing employees and the community at risk. Please help ensure the safety of your employees and your community by becoming a member of Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc.





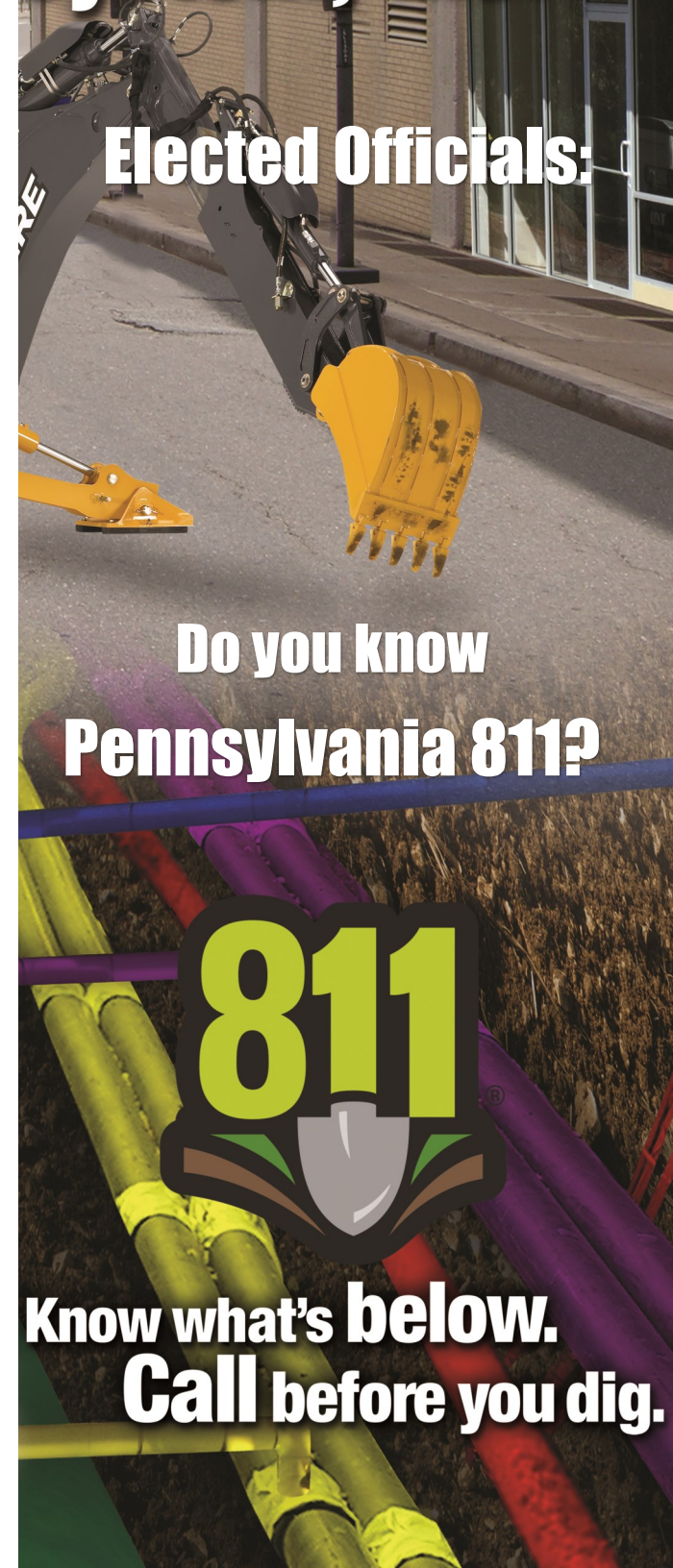
Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc., dba Pennsylvania 811, is the “Call Before You Dig!” nonprofit for the Commonwealth of PA.

**Our purpose is to prevent damage to underground facilities.**

If your city, township, borough or municipality owns or operates underground utilities, you are obligated, via PA Act 287, as amended, to be a member of Pennsylvania 811.

[www.pa1call.org/palaw](http://www.pa1call.org/palaw)

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**Elected Officials:**

**Do you know  
Pennsylvania 811?**



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**