



APRIL IS NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH



Dating back over a decade, April has been recognized across the United States as “National Safe Digging” Month. Each April utility companies join together with the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) with the goal of raising awareness to safely excavate around buried utilities. Perhaps you have seen an area where colored marks have been spray painted on the ground or colored flags placed and wondered of the significance of the markings and colors. Well, wonder no more! Each color is specific to a particular utility service (See color chart below).



Whether you own a professional excavating company or you are a home owner getting ready to undertake a home project that requires digging, you must mark the ground where you plan to dig with white spray paint and then call 811 two business days before you plan to dig and advise them of your digging plans (known as a Locate Request). Once you have contacted 811, they will notify all of the utility companies and advise them of your plans to dig. Upon

Red	Electric
Yellow	Gas, Oil, Steam
Orange	Communications
Blue	Potable Water
Purple	Reclaimed Water
Green	Sewer/Drainage
Pink	Survey Marks
White	Proposed Excavation

receiving the “Locate Request”, utility companies are given two business days to respond and mark buried utilities. After completing the “Locate Request”, utility companies are required to advise 811 that they have completed the locate request and identified any buried service line they have near your dig site. Once you have entered a “Locate Request” you may check the status by visiting the website www.onecallofwyoming.com. Once your “Locate Request” has been completed, you have 14 business days to complete the work. Once you begin the project, if you realize you won’t be able to complete the digging in the allotted 14 days, that’s no problem! Simply call 811 again two business days before the end of the 14 days and request a locate update. Calling 811 before you dig is free. It’s easy and it’s the law!

You’re almost ready to begin digging...

Now that all of your utility lines have been marked, it is important to understand that any digging that is done within 18 inches of either side of any of the marks must be done by hand (shovel) and still must be done with extreme care. In some instances, certain utilities may be buried only a few inches beneath the surface.

This diagram illustrates the paths underground utilities might take to service your home. Imagine if you were going to install a picket fence around this home next weekend. Where would you place your white spray paint marks? If you planned on starting on Saturday, what day of the week should you contact 811 for the “Locate Request”?



You may not use any mechanical device (backhoe, trencher, auger machines, rototillers, etc.) to dig within 18 inches of either side of the marks left by the utility companies.

HISTORY OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

National Safe Digging Month was established in 2008 as a strategy to encourage all Common Ground Alliance (C.G.A.) stakeholders to promote the safe digging message in a coordinated manner during a critical month when digging activity begins across the country. The C.G.A. was established in 2000 with the goal of saving lives and reducing damage to America’s subsurface infrastructure by promoting effective damage prevention measures.

For a variety of reasons, humans construct holes, trenches, and other underground

structures. We have long been known to have a nearly instinctive desire to dig holes in the ground, which begins in childhood. Later on in our lives, we dig the ground for food and water. Wood-lined water wells have been discovered in the early Neolithic Linear Pottery culture, such as in Kückhoven (5090 B.C.) and Eythra (5200 B.C.) in Schletz, Austria. The first archaeological excavation occurred in the sixth century B.C., when Nabonidus, King of Babylon, unearthed a thousand-year-old temple floor.

During the early Roman period, Julius

Caesar’s forces took metal objects, and by the medieval period, Europeans were digging up pots that had partially emerged from erosion and weapons that had appeared on farmlands. Although humans are capable of digging with their bare hands, digging using tools is usually more convenient. The shovel is the most fundamental digging tool. In the Neolithic era and earlier, the shoulder blade of a large animal was frequently used as a primitive shovel. Nowadays, shovels are typically made of metal with a wooden handle.

Recipe
DIRECTIONS

Black Bean Chicken with Rice

Ingredients:

4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (4 ounce each)	2 teaspoons canola oil
3 teaspoons chili powder	1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
1 teaspoon ground cumin	1 cup frozen corn
1 teaspoon black pepper	2 cups hot cooked brown rice
¼ teaspoon salt	

Directions

In a small bowl, mix seasonings, sprinkle over both sides of chicken. In a large non-stick skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Brown chicken on both sides.

Add black beans, corn and salsa to skillet. Cook, covered for 10 to 15 minutes or until thermometer inserted into chicken reads 165° F. Remove chicken from pan and cut into slices. Serve with bean mixture and brown rice.

Tampering with a gas meter is a serious safety hazard and is also illegal. Wyoming Gas Company immediately terminates service when any tampering is discovered in order to inspect and repair any damages to the meter and other equipment. Service may be re-established at the Company's discretion and after an investigation is completed. The occupant of the premises is responsible for all costs of materials and labor associated with the repairs, the cost of all unauthorized gas consumption, any outstanding account balance, and reconnect fees as approved in the Company's Rates by the WYPSC. In addition, a police report will be filed and the occupant may be subject to criminal or civil charges. While unauthorized use of gas is a theft, this issue is secondary to the primary concern of safety. Our service technicians are highly trained and certified and must undergo several procedures when inspecting and servicing a meter to ensure the safety of occupants and the property itself. Please contact your local office if you need gas service established at your residence. Your safety is our number one concern!



Destroyed Meter



Destroyed Meter locks

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 4 – Basin - **Bingo**, Basin City Arts Center 6:30-8:30 p.m. Packet sales limited to 18 yrs & older. Limited # available @ \$10 Call Tammy @ 307-899-0478. Doors open @ 6 pm.

April 15 – Basin - Friends of the Basin Library “**Murder on a Train**” Mystery Theater 6 p.m. Door open 5:30. \$5 @ person or \$20 immediate family.

April 22 – Basin - **Heaven Bound Gospel Singers** Basin City Arts Center 7 p.m. Free & Open to the Public. Donations Appreciated.

April 23 – Worland - **13th Annual Fur Ball** Washakie County Fairgrounds. Doors open at 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. Cash bar by Goose's Liquor 5:00-8:00 pm. Dinner (3 meat BBQ catered by WY Got BBQ), silent auction, raffles, and live auction. Tickets \$30 per person on sale at Tharp Veterinary Clinic, Larsen's Bicycles, Cloud Peak Veterinary Service, Worland Big Horn Co-op Farm Store, Goose's Liquor, and New Hope Humane Society. All proceeds go directly to New Hope Humane Society in Worland.

May 6 – Basin - **Dan Miller Cowboy Revue**, Basin City Arts Center. 7 p.m. Advance Tickets \$25 per person or \$30 at the door. Call Carmen @ 307-899-0446

Reminder: We use this section for our local communities. The messages must be non-partisan and non-religious. Non-Profit organization messages will be given preference. Please send the information to customerservice@wyogas.com before the 10th of the month to make the following month edition. Thank you.



Scholarships are available in each of our service areas for High School Seniors graduating in 2023!

Applications are available at our office or from your High School Guidance Counselor. To learn more, visit us at www.wyogas.com, where you can also read and print a copy of the instructions and application. The deadline is April 15th, so don't delay!

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.” – Albert Einstein



Proudly serving Wyoming for over 100 years!

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Wyoming's Natural Choice...
Wyoming Gas Company
Knowledgeable, Reliable, Local



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

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