

Digging Up

THE NEWS

November 2007

Dig Safely. New York

Dig Safely and Dig Safely. New York are used under license from Dig Safe System, Inc.

Excavator Safety Seminars!
Must Attend Safety Events

2008 EXCAVATOR SAFETY SEMINARS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

THE 2008 EXCAVATOR SAFETY SEMINAR DATES AND LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED.

After a successful 2007 campaign, Dig Safely New York has expanded to host eight regional events in March of 2008. Please visit our website for information on how you can be a part of our 2008 tour. You can register as a participant or reserve your spot as an exhibitor at one or all eight seminars. Visit our website for details and other important information: www.digsafelynewyork.com.

One registration enhancement added for 2008 is the ability for participants to ask a question to

our panel of experts. Dig Safely New York will collect your questions and ask our panel a sample of your most frequently asked questions. The "Panel of Experts" will be made up of various people who are involved in damage prevention. Please be sure to type in your question before you submit your registration.

If you should have any questions regarding the Excavator Safety Seminars or registering for any of the events, please call **Kevin Hopper** or **Wendy Indick** at 315-437-7394.

Tuesday	March 4	Monticello, NY
Thursday	March 6	Suffern, NY
Tuesday	March 11	Hamburg, NY
Thursday	March 13	Pittsford, NY
Tuesday	March 18	Syracuse, NY
Thursday	March 20	Horseheads, NY
Tuesday	March 25	Albany, NY
Thursday	March 27	Canton, NY

continued on page 3



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



Dig Safely. New York
811 or 800-962-7962
www.DigSafelyNewYork.com

OUR MISSION

Prevent damages to underground facilities and protect the public through education and quality communication with excavators, underground facility operators and designers in an efficient courteous and cost-effective manner while complying with governing regulations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President:

Jon McKnight, Time Warner Cable

Vice President:

Laurie Brown, National Grid Co.

Secretary: Thomas Gumble, Frontier,
a Citizens Communication Co.

Treasurer: Lenny Perfetti, NYSEG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Ayers, TEPPCO

Michael Bushart, City of Rochester Water

Gregory George, Rochester Gas & Electric

Leon Hacker, Verizon

Mark Hooper, National Fuel Gas

Michael Kolceski, O'Brien & Gere Engineers

Joseph Laraiso, ERSC, Inc.

Michael Mauter, Buckeye Pipe Line Co.

David Merte, Central Hudson Gas &
Electric Corp.

Whitney Rogers, Windstream Communications

Kenneth Rotella, Orange & Rockland
Utilities, Inc.

John Roth, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co.

William VanDame, City of Rochester Engineering

David D'Angelo, Metropolitan Water Board

John Zizolfo, Con Edison

LEGAL ADVISOR

J. Joseph Wilder, Wilder & Linneball, LLP

Established in 1968, Dig Safely New York is a not-for-profit organization serving all of New York State with the exception of New York City and Long Island. Dig Safely New York's One-Call Center, located in Syracuse, NY functions as a communications hub-relaying pending excavation plans to facility owning members whose buried services may be directly affected by the planned excavation.

DIGGING UP THE NEWS

is published by Dig Safely New York. For more information, comments or address changes contact:

Kevin Hopper, Operations Manager

5063 Brittonfield Pkwy; East Syracuse, NY 13057

E-Mail: kshopper@digsafelynewyork.com



From the Desk of the Executive Director

By Steve Wright

With this edition of the newsletter, I would like to take the opportunity to showcase our Local Damage Prevention Councils located throughout the State. I am extremely proud of the dedication displayed at each of the eight councils in the name of underground utility damage prevention and cooperation among all stakeholders.

Dig Safely New York supports each damage prevention council financially, in conjunction with the five Field Representatives. However, the vast majority of support is through the volunteers who are afforded the time to attend the meetings by their employers. The councils are structured with a President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer positions to manage the meetings and to set budgetary needs to create successful councils.

At the meetings conducted by the councils, decisions are made for educational sessions scheduled in their council territories, trade show participation, team building events, and roundtable discussions on various activities which have occurred since their last meeting. One of the major benefits of the councils is the opportunity to network with council member peers in the industry. As a result of the council meetings, many issues have been resolved which could have been much more difficult to bring to a conclusion. One example of success is the coordination of the Verizon fiber optic project occurring throughout the state. As the miles of fiber have been installed, coordination of utility mark outs have been successful with utility companies working together to achieve a common cause of minimizing damage to the underground utilities.

One valuable source of information is our website www.digsafelynewyork.com containing the meeting schedules,

locations and minutes of the meetings of the damage councils in your area. I strongly recommend attending a meeting in your area. If you have any questions regarding the meetings, please contact the field representative for your area. The relationships you will establish and the opportunity to speak about your concerns regarding damage prevention are invaluable.

In closing, I want to compliment all the volunteers who have made our programs successful at each council and welcome new members to join our growing team from utility companies, municipalities, contractors and excavators.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS TEAM BUILDING

Dig Safely New York's Board of Directors recently held a team-building charity bike build in September. The board of directors utilized team bonding to host the bike building. It provided an excellent way for Dig Safely New York to give back to the community and provide a fun high energy team-building event for the board.

Information You Should Know! What Members Were Notified?

Excavators call Dig Safely New York to have their utility lines located and this is the correct first step. However, our concern is many excavators may not keep track of the listed member utilities affected for each location request. Keeping track and receiving a positive response is an essential part of the one-call process. In an effort to simplify obtaining a list of notified members for each location request easier, we have provided a member listing based on city, town, or village for you to utilize for each location request.

You may want to obtain a list of the possible members by going to **www.digsafelynewyork.com** and clicking *Excavations > Stake out Response Worksheet > click on the County > click on the Place* and a list will appear. You can print this list ahead of time to avoid writing every member down each time a call is made to Dig Safely New York. As the CSR reads the name of the member, write a checkmark in the box to the left and then you will know which members should be contacting you before the legal start time. Please note this sheet has a wealth of information including phone numbers, websites, contact names, etc. In addition, after the member has contacted you, indicate whether they are clear, marked, request a meeting, etc. This worksheet has been considered extremely valuable by the excavators who have used it to date. Many times the callers have made photocopies to have the sheets available and then file them in the applicable dig site folder.

We are always trying to make your call to us as simple and pleasant as possible, so please check out our website on a regular basis to find our user-friendly materials. If you have any questions regarding any of the above information, please contact Wendy Indick at 315-437-7394.

AGENDA FOR THE 2008 EXCAVATOR SAFETY SEMINARS

continued from page 1

Registration	8:00-8:30
Introductions	8:30-8:40
Travelers Insurance	8:40-10:00

Travelers Construction Risk Control Consultants will discuss the costs associated with actual underground utility hits and how to mitigate those costs in the event of an underground utility hit on your site.

Break	10:00-10:15
Dig Safely New York Presentation	10:15-11:00

Dig Safely New York will provide insight into the one-call process and safe excavation practices. They will dig into the responsibilities of the excavator, facility operator, and one call center.

Utility Awareness (utility sponsors)	11:00-12:00
---	--------------------

Local utility providers will discuss various safety topics associated with working around their facilities. This information can become invaluable as it provides excavators with a better understanding of what to look for and how to be safe when excavating around a specific facility type.

Lunch	12:00-1:00
Industry Technology	1:00-1:45

Industry technologies change all the time, this segment will feature a sample of some of the technology being utilized in the field.

Panel Discussion (damage prevention issues)	1:45-2:15
--	------------------

Industry experts will answer your questions. Dig Safely New York will collect questions submitted by excavators who preregister. The questions will be answered by our experts, who represent the various parties involved in damage prevention.

Closing and Raffle	2:15-2:30
Vendor Demonstrations	2:30-TBD

Excavator Safety Seminars!

Must Attend Safety Events

2008 CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 4
Monticello Gaming and Raceway
204 Route 17B
Monticello NY 12701

Thursday, March 6
Holiday Inn
17 North Airmont Road
Suffern NY 10901

Tuesday, March 11
Michael's
4885 Southwestern Blvd
Hamburg NY 14075

Thursday, March 13
Burgundy Basin Inn
1361 Marsh Road
Pittsford NY 14534

Tuesday, March 18
NYS Fairgrounds, Horticulture Building
State Fair Blvd
Syracuse NY 13204

Thursday, March 20
Wings of Eagles Elmira-Corning Regional Airport
17 Aviation Drive
Horseheads NY 14845

Tuesday, March 25
Polish Community Center
225 Washington Ave. Ext.
Albany NY 12205

Thursday, March 27
Best Western, University Inn
90 East Main Street (Rte. 11)
Canton NY 13617-1452

DPC Meeting Schedule For 2007-2008

For up to date meeting information please check the events calendar at www.digsafelynewyork.com. Simply click on the events calendar shortcut at the top of the page. You can also check with the Field Representative if there are any questions.

CAPITAL REGION DPC

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Latham Fire Station
266 Old Loudon Road in Latham, NY

Council Officers for 2007-09

William Notro - Chairperson
Butch Ferguson - Vice Chairperson
John Zacher - Secretary / Treasurer

Field Rep.: Donna Shave

CENTRAL NEW YORK DPC

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Operations Center of Dig Safely New York, Inc.
5063 Brittonfield Pkwy, East Syracuse, NY

Council Officers for 2007-09

Matt Scorzelli - Chairperson
Christopher Spurchise - Vice Chairperson
Phillip J. McDonald - Secretary
Brian MacVean - Treasurer

Field Rep.: Jim Flint

HUDSON VALLEY DPC

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Exception for December
Dec. 12th 11:30 Holiday luncheon
Council rotates their meeting locations every month.

Council Officers for 2007-09

Curtis Wilson - Chairperson
David (Scott) Smith - Vice Chairperson
Ryan Craven - Secretary
John O'Keefe - Treasurer

Field Rep.: John Yehl

MOHAWK VALLEY DPC

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Will not be meeting in July or August.
Council has started rotating their meeting locations.

Council Officers for 2007-09

Andre Sooklal - Chairperson
Mary Thomann - Vice Chairperson
Janet Darling - Secretary / Treasurer

Field Rep.: Jim Flint

Dig-Site Clarification

Over the course of this year we have emphasized our ticket taking standards. Questions concerning the proper procedures for calling in multiple dig sites (soil borings, poles, trees, signs, etc) and how to clearly define a work area have prompted us to offer further clarification. Our policies have been in place to better serve those involved in the one-call process. We have always looked at our policies with our members, locators, excavators and New York State law in mind. Our intent is to make the call-in process as efficient and practical as possible. We hope these clarifications will answer your questions concerning the size of a location request and how we require multiple dig areas to be separated.

■ Worksite Policy

The Standard: An excavation notice shall consist of a contiguous work site - within a block or within 500-ft., whichever is greater. This includes the side of a road, in a field, in the median of the highway, or anywhere the work is continuous. It can also extend around the corner of a block for a distance not to exceed 500-ft. If work is being done at a property (house, business, vacant lot) where the dig site is not continuous (you are picking up your equipment and moving to a new location), you are required to request a separate location for each individual property, even if the properties are side by side.

Explanation of the standard: The standard was instituted to define the limits of an individual worksite. Location requests were too large and had a negative effect on the one-call process as utility locators were held up on one large locate lacking dig site clarification. If this type of job is divided according to the standard, the locator could keep a day or two ahead of the work at a large site and still serve the locates in the rest of his or her territory. Utilizing this standard benefits everyone, as large jobs can begin on time when the worksite is divided up into segments that are more manageable for the excavator, utility and locator. Clearly defining a worksite increases productivity and inevitably assists in damage prevention.

In what may seem like more location requests to manage, the amount of potential non-involved utilities per location request is actually reduced. Applying this standard to the work site also allows for the excavator to commence work in a cleared area as opposed

to having to wait for an area outside of your work site to be located because you have not adequately defined your work site.

■ Utility Poles

The Standard: For utility pole placements, installs, or anchors our procedures allow for a maximum of three poles per location request, provided the poles are continuous. Regardless of house numbers or which side of the street the poles run (i.e. pole 125, 125a, 126), as long as they are three continuous poles, they are allowed on one location request. However, this type of location request must still follow the original extent of excavation policy of block to block or 500-ft for each job requested.

Explanation of the standard: Work on a pole does not necessitate a large mark out area; this compromise to the worksite standard was reached in an effort to reduce the number of requested tickets when the excavation performed is for utility poles.

■ Multiple Area Worksites (trees, sign posts, mailboxes, soil borings, etc)

The Standard: This follows the original worksite policy (each dig is a separate ticket) except as follows: If a caller gives a house number where they are planting several trees, they do not need a separate ticket for each tree. The house address serves as the "location" for this ticket. Therefore, if ABC Contracting is planting 10 trees at house #23 Smith Street, all of the work can go on one ticket. If they are planting 10 trees on the east side of Smith Street, each spot should get its own location ticket. This is an example when marking in white and numbering the dig sites is advantageous and helpful for the locators.

Explanation of the standard: This again helps set a defined work area. Code Rule 753 defines a work area as "the area of the ground or equivalent surface which will be disturbed or removed by excavation work or affected by demolition work."

This set of standards has helped us establish the most mutually beneficial process to all stakeholders. Dig Safely New York constantly tries to achieve the best efforts for protection of underground utilities and efficient excavations by everyone. If you have further questions in regard to this or any other issues please contact your local field representative.

? DID YOU KNOW...

In past newsletters we have included the Location Request Information Sheet to remind each caller of the questions they will be asked every time they call. In this newsletter we are going to focus on some of the quality measures we impose on our customer service representatives to insure every caller is aware of their responsibilities regarding timing of notice and to ensure they are provided a list of member facility operators who have been notified of your pending excavation.

If you are calling for a non-emergency location request and you request a start date before the legal date, the customer service representatives (CSRs) are required to read the following statement every time: "Since you wish to request an illegal state date, I am required to remind you this phone call is being recorded and digging without at least two full working days advance notice is illegal. Dig Safely New York discourages illegal excavation work on less than two working days notice. Doing so may result in damage to property, personal injury, death, civil liability and/or an enforcement action by OSHA or the Public Service Commission. Placement of this call will not eliminate your potential civil or criminal liability for violation of the law. Would you like to extend the proposed start date to comply with Code Rule 753?"

Many people are upset; however, the representatives are required to read this statement. It is also in the best interest of every excavator to comply with the two-day requirement. Simply having a ticket number may not be enough should you damage an underground facility on an illegal notice.

In addition, there are other statements the CSR is required to read including the list of utilities who will be contacted based on the ticket information. If you know the list of utilities and do not want the list read, you may state this to the CSR. However, without having confirmation from all notified utilities prior to your excavation you cannot begin your work. The CSR reads the list of utilities to allow you to create a check list of utilities who should respond to you indicating the status of your location request (positive response).

We hope this answers some of the questions you may have regarding your calls to our office. We will try to include frequently asked questions in each newsletter in order to make each of your calls a pleasant experience.

OUT AND ABOUT

Besides Dig Safely New York representatives attending the NYS Fair, many others have attended some of the Motorsports Events held at various locations. Dig Safely New York also sponsored a volleyball team in the Syracuse area and provided t-shirts to young athletic teams elsewhere in the state. So, you never know when you might spot our name when you are traveling this great state.

TOP: Several members of the CNY DPC enjoyed lunch in August aboard the LT5 docked in Oswego. BOTTOM: Pictured left to right: John Roth, Steve Wright, Ms. DIRT Motorsports and Larry Bishop prepare for an on track trophy presentation during Super Dirt Week.



DPC Meeting Schedule For 2007-2008

NORTH EAST DPC

Meets the 4th Wednesday of every month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Council rotates their meeting locations. Phil McDonald always takes RSVP's because they usually have lunch at their meetings.

Council Officers for 2007-09

Craig "Sid" Siddon – Chairperson
Phil McDonald – Vice Chairperson
Joe Tenney – Secretary / Treasurer

Field Rep.: Donna Shave

SOUTHERN TIER DPC

Meets the last Wednesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Council rotates their meetings between the NYSEG Facilities located in Binghamton, Horseheads and Ithaca. Council keeps the rotation in the same order which helps their Member attendance.

Council Officers for 2007-09

William Marcey – Chairperson
Frank Matyas Jr. – Vice Chairperson
Dan Blance – Secretary
Laurie Bailey-Palmer - Treasurer

Field Rep.: Jim Flint

UTILITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE DPC

Meets the 1st Thursday following the 2nd Tuesday (Board Meeting) of every month from noon to 2:00 p.m.

Check with Don Ross for locations

Council Officers for 2007-09

Don Gurnett – Chairperson
Vince Tomasella – Vice Chairperson
Jim VanMeenen – Secretary
John Ryan – Treasurer

Field Representative.: Don Ross

WESTERN NEW YORK DPC

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

National Fuel Service Center
5995 New Taylor Road, Orchard Park, NY

Council Officers for 2007-09

Leon Hacker – Chairperson
Mike Murphy – Vice Chairperson
Tara Koneski – Secretary / Treasurer

Field Rep.: Rich Fiorella

Annual Sustaining Membership

for calendar year April 1, 2007 to
March 31, 2008

Bytronics Inc.

C.M. Holler Exc. & Grading, Inc.

Construction Industry Council
of Westchester & Hudson
Valley, Inc.

DIRT Motorsports

Eastcom Associates, Inc.

ECSM Utility Contractors, Inc.

Enviroprobe Service, Inc.

IRTH Solutions

National Healthcare Access, Inc.

O'Brien & Gere

Premier Utility Services

Quartier Printing Co. Inc.

Ronald H. Price & Sons Inc.

Spectra Engineering PC

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Underground Imaging
Technologies

Underground Services Inc.

Underground Imaging
Technologies

Wilder & Linneball, LLP

If you would like more information on becoming a Sustaining Member please contact Wendy Indick at (315) 437-7394. The basic benefits of an annual Sustaining Membership are as follows:

- Recognition at Dig Safely New York's Annual Business Meeting.
- Acknowledgement in Dig Safely New York's Annual Report.
- Acknowledgement on Dig Safely New York's website along with a link to your homepage.
- Exhibitor space provided at a discounted rate at our Annual Business Meeting and Excavator Seminars.
- Upon request, damage prevention educational materials and promotional items.

Membership and i-notice Support Team News

■ Who is the "Support Team"?

Theresa Benjack, Chris Phillips and Toni Schmidt, who have a combined total of 45 years experience at Dig Safely New York.

■ What does the "Support Team" do?

The Support Team will assist callers with Membership, Database and HELP DESK assistance. The Support Team will assist all applicants and participants with processing, training and tracking of i-notice, the method of ticket entry using the internet by Dig Safely New York.

■ When and where do I call?

We encourage all members, excavators and customers to call the HELP DESK at 800-309-8289 for all your "Support" needs. The best time to call is Monday - Friday, between 7am and 5pm when a Support Team representative is available. To place an excavation notice, please dial 811 or 800-962-7962. Below is a brief outline of some of the assistance the "Support Team" offers:

MEMBERSHIP:

- Recruiting/Processing new Membership to Dig Safely New York
- Updating present member records/profiles such as changes to:
- Personnel, mailing address, phone numbers
- Dig notice delivery methods and/or phone numbers
- Resending dig notices
- Map training and assistance

DATABASE:

- Entering changes to Irth and paper files
- Member and Excavator records
- Member map update releases
- Web account registration for mapping & i-notice access

i-NOTICE:

- Registration request
- Ticket entry training and assistance
- Releasing / processing / tracking i-notice requests

The "Support Team" looks forward to assisting all our members and excavators. Be sure to visit our web-site often for updates on events and new contests.

REMINDER TO MEMBERS: THE SPRING SYSTEM MAP UPDATE IS SCHEDULED TO BE STAGED IN MAY 2008. WE WILL BE SENDING OUT REMINDERS IN LATE APRIL.

TOP: Steve Wright is pictured with Jon McKnight as he draws the winning name.
BOTTOM: Donna Shave and Kevin Hopper present the HGTV to Judy Bogardus



i-notice Contest Concludes

By simply using i-notice (our internet location request system), Judy Bogardus from Cobleskill Stone Products WON a 32 inch LCD HDTV.

Judy started entering locations using the internet during our contest period, and won a TV in our grand prize drawing held October 9th. Judy was presented with her winnings at the October 18th Capital Region DPC meeting.

Start using i-notice for your location requests! You never know when it may provide you an opportunity to become a winner in our next contest!



From the Field- Timing of Notice

By Don Ross, Field Representative

In the previous issue, Field Representative Donna Shave covered “Maintaining” the marks; one of the five steps to a safe excavation. To further embellish upon her article, I am going to cover the “Timing” of a notice as well as some other regulations and tips which can prove to be beneficial to both the contractor and the system operator.

First, let’s take a look at New York State Code Rule 753 as it pertains to the initial “call”.

The Code Rule requires an excavator to call at least two full “business days” prior to any planned excavation, not counting the day you call. “Business days” are Monday through Friday and do not include New York State recognized holidays. Here are some other things to think about:

- The construction season by its very nature places a manpower burden upon both the contractor and the system operator. One method of helping to ensure your utility mark-out is complete when you need it and avoid the *additional* two-day delay a system operator can legally request, is to *pre-plan* your work well in advance. If you make the 811 call to Dig Safely New York a week or so in advance, it will allow facility locators to more efficiently plan their work. This is beneficial to all concerned parties.
- A marked location is legal only for the individual or company making the initial request. If you excavate using someone else’s markings, you are not only liable for any damage you may cause but you may also receive a “Notice of Probable Violation” from the NYSPPSC
- For those performing demolitions, a “pre-demolition conference” shall be

requested of all involved parties at least seven days prior to the commencement of the work. This conference is not a substitute for the notice of intent to perform demolition work, but is in addition to the notification request.

- Remember, you must wait the required two working days, not counting the day you call, prior to starting any work. In addition, you must ensure you “Close the Loop” by receiving a positive response from each system operator or their designated locating company.

After the call, what happens if I still have not heard from the utilities by the legal dig date?

- You have called, waited the required time and still have not received a utility mark-out or positive response on the part of one or all of the listed operators in the planned excavation area. You should immediately call Dig Safely New York to retransmit another ticket to the operator(s) in question. This retransmit will indicate that you have provided sufficient notice and are waiting for the facility operator to fulfill their requirements under 753-4.5. This of course, does not apply if you have received a request from one or more operators to utilize the *additional* two-day waiting period permitted by State Law.

Expired mark-outs can be a real issue, particularly if damage occurs.

- Once your facility mark-out has been completed and the “start date” arrives, you have a total of ten working-days to begin the job. If you have not started your work within the stated timeframe, you must notify Dig Safely New York for another facility mark-out reflecting the revised commencement date. If your work is going to be delayed for a

few days, make it a practice to stop at the proposed jobsite and ensure stakes, paint and flags are intact to avoid a delay down the road. If you allow your ticket to expire, you will be required to wait two full working days for a new facility mark-out before work can legally begin. This is identical to the initial call requirements. Commencement of work utilizing an expired ticket is an illegal excavation.

Dig Safely New York has a computer-based notification system known as i-notice

- Consider setting up an i-notice account with Dig Safely New York. This will allow you to fulfill your excavation notice responsibilities by utilizing your computer. There are distinct advantages to this system. How about immediately being able to view your proposed work area on a map! Another great feature is the ability to print your ticket along with the names of all facility operators in your proposed excavation area.

What are the meanings of the markings on site? Be certain to read the flags!

- I would like to take a moment to mention a change in Federal, State and/or Local law that could, to the careless excavator, present problems. Many lawn service companies are utilizing flags (similar to the ones used by utility system operators for marking facilities) to mark areas they either intend to treat or properties previously treated with chemicals. They do this to comply with notification requirements enacted by various government bodies. I am aware of both yellow and red in the typical plastic flag configuration to which we have become so familiar. Fortunately, all the flags I have noticed to date are clearly marked as belonging to a lawn service company. Please be certain to read the flags in your work area to avoid confusion.

BUD Attends the New York State Fair

BUD (Before U Dig) the national 811 mascot made his first New York State public appearance at the 2007 New York State Fair. This venue provided an opportunity to expose the 936,000 attendees to BUD and the new 811 national number during the daily 6 p.m. parade.

Furthering the outreach of this important safety message is always an objective of Dig Safely New York. A recent national survey revealed only 35% of homeowners indicated they—or someone in their house—have called to have their utility lines marked in the past. This was just one more place for people to be reminded of the importance of calling before you dig. Exposing consumers to BUD and the national 811 “Call Before You Dig” number can only aid us in increasing the number of people who will call to have their utility lines marked.

We would like to give a special thank you to Brian Davis from Time Warner Cable and Mike DiGinero from Verizon who were instrumental in securing a place for BUD when he wasn’t in the parade.



We would like to thank the following members for assisting BUD during his parade activities: Jim Flint, Charlene Furbush, Larry and Rea Bishop, Tom Gumble, Don Ross, Frank Matyas, Bart Besley, Jim Putman, Steve and Lois Wright, Dan Ball, Christine Phillips, Scott Henderson, Heather Kline, Amanda Brue, Stacey Slate, Wendy Indick, and Kevin and Christy Hopper.