

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
MAYORAL PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, each year, Alaska's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage; and*

*WHEREAS, the 811 phone number was designated as the National call-before-you-dig number in 2005 and is an active, free service throughout Alaska that dispatches utilities to locate lines at the subject project; and*

*WHEREAS, placing a call to 811 at least two business days before digging, respecting the marked lines, and digging with care greatly reduces the risk of hitting a utility line; and*

*WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as Safe Digging Month and serves to promote public awareness about the importance of calling 811 before you dig; and*

*WHEREAS, the rate at which Alaskans hit utility lines is three times greater than the national average thus local and statewide efforts are necessary to increase awareness of 811, safe digging, preventing damage to underground utility infrastructure, and ensuring public safety.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edna DeVries, Mayor of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, do hereby proclaim and pronounce April 2022, as*

**Safe Digging Month**

*In furtherance of this proclamation, I urge all residents of the Borough to spread awareness about safe digging practices and always call 811 two business days before digging.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to be affixed this 19 day of April, 2022.*

  
EDNA DeVRIES, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. MCKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk