

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) designated the simple, toll-free number of **811** to provide excavators and homeowners a number to call and request utility line locations at intended dig sites; and

WHEREAS, each year, vital underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage by those that fail to call **811** to have underground lines located prior to digging; and

WHEREAS, undesired consequences such as utility service interruption, damage to the environment, personal injury and even death are some of the potential results of failing to take the time to dial **811**; and

WHEREAS, the members of **Sunshine 811**, Florida's one-call center charged with helping prevent damages to underground utilities, and **Common Ground Alliance**, an association dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection and the integrity of services, promote "**Call 811 before you dig**" whether it be gardening, installing a fence, mailbox, or any project that involves digging; and

WHEREAS, through education on safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money, and can prevent serious injury to themselves and others by calling **811** before beginning any digging project, and waiting two full business days for the locator to provide locate marks, then verifying the utility responses as required, protecting the marks so they remain visible, and digging with care around the marks; and

WHEREAS, safe digging is a responsibility shared by all of us, and if everyone took the time to dial **811** before digging, resources and time could be saved.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2014 as

"SAFE DIGGING MONTH"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in encouraging others to **Call 811 before you dig**, and expressing appreciation to the members of Sunshine 811 and Common Ground Alliance for bringing awareness to our community about safe digging practices.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 28th day of March, 2014.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

