#### INDIANA ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH NEWS RELEASE

#### 

#### [INSERT COMPANY LOGO]

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**NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH IS A CONVENIENT REMINDER TO ALWAYS CONTACT 811 BEFORE DIGGING**

*[STAKEHOLDER NAME] encourages Hoosiers to submit a free locate request at Indiana811.org or make a call to 811 at least two full working days before digging to know what’s below*

**CITY, Ind. (May 1, 2024)** – May is National Electrical Safety Month, and [INSERT STAKEHOLDER NAME] reminds Indiana homeowners and contractors to contact Indiana 811 at least two full working days before digging to protect themselves from striking buried utilities, including buried electrical lines. Striking a single line can cause severe injuries, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

When visiting [Indiana811.org](https://indiana811.org/) or calling 811 by phone, homeowners and contractors are connected to Indiana 811, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Professional locators are then sent to the requested dig site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with paint and/or flags.

Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a call to 811 or a visit to [Indiana811.org](https://indiana811.org/). Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that should include contacting 811 beforehand.

The depth of utility lines can vary for several reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked because even when digging only a few inches, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists. Anyone planning to dig should follow the five important steps for getting utilities marked – plan the project, contact Indiana 811, wait for the marks, confirm the marks and finally, dig with care.

“During National Electrical Safety Monthand throughout the year, we remind homeowners and contractors alike to contact Indiana 811 before digging to eliminate the risk of striking an underground utility line,” said [INSERT REPRESENTATIVE NAME], [TITLE] for [INSERT STAKEHOLDER NAME]. “Even if electrical lines hang from poles in your neighborhood, it doesn’t mean you’re in the clear. Additional facilities are likely buried in the area and need to be marked prior to digging.”

Visit [www.indiana811.org](http://www.indiana811.org) for more information about 811 and safe digging practices.

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