



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, April historically begins the season of gardening and digging for homeowners, landscapers, and construction companies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is dedicated to the safety and well-being of its residents and is committed to protecting the integrity of our underground utility infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, each year, the nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by unintentional damage caused by those who fail to have underground utility lines properly located before digging; and

WHEREAS, striking a buried utility line can result in severe consequences, including service disruptions, environmental damage, personal injury, and even loss of life; and

WHEREAS, residents of Chicago can significantly reduce the risk of damaging underground utilities by contacting 811 Chicago, a 24-hour service network designed to help prevent contractors and private citizens from striking existing utility lines while digging; and

WHEREAS, this system promptly notifies utility providers of planned excavation work and ensures underground lines are clearly marked before any digging takes place; and

WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as Safe Digging Month to raise public awareness about the importance of calling 811 and following safe digging practices; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago stands with local utility providers, public safety agencies, and community partners in promoting excavation safety to protect lives, infrastructure, and essential services:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRANDON JOHNSON, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as SAFE DIGGING MONTH IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO and urge all homeowners, contractors, and excavators to call 811 before any digging project to safeguard our community and ensure a safer Chicago for all.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon Johnson".

Mayor