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The Scoop

Call Okie Damage Prevention Quarterly Newsletter

A graphic for Call Okie's 35th Anniversary Open House. It features a blue sky background with white clouds. In the center is the 'OKIE811' logo with a cartoon rabbit character wearing a red hard hat. Above the logo is '35th Anniversary' in a script font. Below the logo is the slogan 'Know what's below. Call before you dig.' Two yellow banners on either side of the logo contain text: 'Prizes, cake and punch!' on the left and 'Hot dogs, hamburgers, nachos and more!' on the right. Below the logo, it says 'We would like to invite you to join us for an Open House celebrating Call Okie's 35th Anniversary!'. At the bottom, there are six colored flags (blue, orange, red, green, yellow, pink) on a green grassy field.

Prizes, cake and punch!

Hot dogs, hamburgers, nachos and more!

35th Anniversary

OKIE811

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

We would like to invite you to join us for an Open House celebrating Call Okie's 35th Anniversary!

When: August 7th, 2014
Time: 4pm-6pm (Come and go)
Who: Anyone is Welcome!

Oklahoma One-Call OKC Office
2831 NW 59th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Call Okie's 35th Anniversary Open House August 7th - 4pm-6pm

In 1979 the Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc., now referred to as Call Okie, was incorporated and now 35 years later is an industry leader in Call Center and Damage Prevention services for Oklahoma. In an effort to celebrate the past 35 years and also thank our dedicated members, partners and excavators for making damage prevention a priority, we are opening our doors and inviting everyone in!

Please join us for the celebration at either the OKC Headquarters or our satellite Call Center in Claremore. We will have cake & punch at both locations and thanks to our partners at Texas 811, they are bringing their 811 Food Truck and we will have burgers, hot dogs, nachos and snow cones for folks at the OKC location.

We will be offering guided tours of the Call Center to help educate people about what we do and the important role we play in protecting our underground utility lines and services. So if you were every curious about what we do, come take a tour!

Simply go to www.callokie.com and scroll to EVENTS to RSVP. Those that RSVP will be entered into a drawing for great prizes that will be given away during the event.

August 11th is 811 Day!

With Aug. 11 almost here, we hope this date on the calendar, 8/11, will serve as a natural reminder for residents to call 811 prior to any digging project to have underground utility lines marked. This comes on the heels of a recent survey by The National Gardening Association which found that 68 percent of households anticipate their do-it-yourself lawn and garden projects will remain the same in 2009 despite the recession.

When calling 811, homeowners are connected to Call Okie, the local one-call center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Professional locators are then sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags or spray paint.

Additionally, with Aug. 11 falling on a Tuesday, anyone planning to dig on the weekend of Aug. 15-16 should call 811 during the first half of the week. Call Okie requires a call 48-hours before the planned project start date.

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a call to 811. Installing a mailbox, putting in a fence, building a deck and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that need a call to 811 before starting.

Northern Damage Prevention Events

Brenda Hoefar- Damage Prevention Manager, North

Red Carpet Council

Red Carpet participated in the Woodward Farm Expo April 4-6 at the Woodward County Fairgrounds. The Expo is one of the area's largest ag/farm & ranch trade shows featuring many commercial exhibitors as well as arts and crafts.. Volunteers from Red Carpet Damage Prevention Council who helped at the Call Okie booth were : Troy Cowley-OG&E, Elmo Tilis-Access Midstream, Dee Rader-Northwest Electric Coop, Debbie Bradley-ONG, and Griffin Mouse-OneOK. Call Okie would like to extend a big thank you to all the volunteers.

APAC Training

APAC of Tulsa invited Brenda to do a safety training for their contractor-employees on April 22. APAC - Oklahoma is one of the leading providers of asphalt and concrete paving services. Additionally, it offers construction and demolition landfill services to its customers.

Safety Trainings

On May 28th, Brenda Hoefar conducted a training class for the City of Oklahoma City Public Work Authority. Jeremy Veach, Safety Analyst for Oklahoma City Public Works Department invites Call Okie to participate with his employees on a yearly basis.

Brenda Hoefar conducted county safety trainings for Waggoner, Osage, Washington, Major, Garfield , Cleveland and Grant counties.



Mid-Del Technology Center

Every year Mid-Del Technology Center in Midwest City conducts trench and shoring classes for area contractors. Brenda Hoefar conducts a brief summary of Call Okie and the importance of calling before you dig during these classes. Forest Dosier, Safety Coordinator for Mid-Del Tech Center understands the importance of Calling before you dig . He and Brenda have work together for years to make Call Okie an important part of his trenching and shoring classes.



Frontier Country

April 3-5 the Call Okie Booth was at the Oklahoma City Farm Show at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds. Over 300 exhibitors and over 1000 product lines were displayed. Exhibits included all the latest in agriculture including tractors, sprayers, tillage, harvest equipment, cattle management products and more. In addition to indoor and outdoor exhibits, daily horse training seminars were conducted. Call Okie is aware that farming is a huge part of Oklahoma and participation in this farm show give farmers and ranchers from across the state an opportunity to come by the Call Okie booth.

Volunteers from Frontier Country Damage Prevention Council who helped at the booth this year were: Jim Zmek,-ONG, Jessica Jackson - Plains All American, Hal Morgan-Linn Energy, Gary Loeffelholz -City of Norman, Leslie Carter - Access Midstream and Brenda Hoefar and Amy Copeland from Call Okie.

Southern Damage Prevention Events

Jerry West- Damage Prevention Manager, South

SW Farm and Garden Expo

South DPC wrapped up the 2014 “Spring Awareness Campaign” with the Great plains DPC hosting the SW Farm and Garden Expo, April 5-6, located at the Elk City Community center. The event attracted over 3000 homeowners and farmers. Attendees’ visited over 150 exhibits for farm, home lawn or garden. Jennifer Kriz and Jeff Hart with Cotton Electric Coop Walters, OK volunteered and helped make this event a success.

Speak Out for Workplace Safety!

In an effort to bring education, business & industry, and government together to promote teen worker safety, the Oklahoma Department of Labor, in partnership with the Oklahoma Safety Council, developed a statewide student video contest called “Speak Out for Workplace Safety!” As students learned about workplace hazards and safety guidelines, they were encouraged to create a video PSA to teach their peers what they learned.

As a 2014 sponsor, Call Okie, was a supporter of a campaign to help create statewide awareness while helping students take an interest in their workplace safety. The “Speak Out for Workplace Safety!” video contest is an endeavor to teach students throughout Oklahoma 77 counties about injury and damage prevention in the construction industry.

“According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, a teen worker is injured on the job every 9 minutes” stated Oklahoma Labor Commissioner Mark Costello. “Teens are more likely than any other age group to get hurt or killed at work.”



FFA Convention

The National Future Farmers of America Organization is a dynamic youth leadership organization that strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agriculture education.

Call Okie was an exhibitor at the 88th Annual State FFA Convention, April 28-30, located in the Cox Business Center, Oklahoma City attracted over 20,000+ attendees and 200 exhibitors. These students strive for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Call Okie Damage Prevention educated future farmers and ranchers for potential excavation dangers associated with in the agricultural industry associated with post holes, terraces and farm ponds. Volunteers included



OK Rural Water Conference

The Oklahoma Rural Water 44th Annual Technical Conference and Expo invited Jerry West to present a break-out session regarding *Communicating Locating Responsibilities* and the NEW excavator ticket management services. Call Okie was an exhibitor for this conference, May 12-13, located in Norman. The event drew over 600+ state wide rural water operators and owners. The ORWA attendees expressed they are pleased with the Call Okie process and their efforts to help protect the water resources in Oklahoma. Numerous operators commented how the Call Okie database department has been instrumental providing current and detailed maps of their facilities. The new maps allow the operators to respond to locates request with increased accuracy in locating.

Southern Damage Prevention Events

Jerry West- Damage Prevention Manager, South

Oklahoma Safety/Oklahoma Department of Labor and Health Conference

Each year the Oklahoma Safety Council hosts the largest safety and health conference in Oklahoma. The 2014 Oklahoma Safety/Oklahoma Department of Labor & Health Conference was held June 4-6, at the Renaissance Hotel and Conference Center in Tulsa.

OSC represents a membership of more than 800 businesses throughout our state. Some of the large members are The Noble Foundation, York International, OG+E, ONEOK, PSO/AEP, Chesapeake, Devon, SandRidge and many more in the involved in the oil and gas, electric, communications, state, municipal, county and health management industry.

Call Okie was one of the sponsors and exhibitor at this event. Brenda Hoefar and Jerry West worked the booth for the two day event. Over the course of two days, more than 500 participants in the utility and construction industry had the opportunity to hear speakers on a variety of safety and health related topics, pursue ongoing educational accreditation, and participate in courses designed for OSHA compliance and network with peer professionals. OSC goal is to provide attendees with the knowledge they can take back to their workplace to enhance productivity.



MESO

Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma is the statewide trade association of Oklahoma's 63 municipally owned electric distribution utilities. Jerry West, Call Okie, was an exhibitor at the 2014 MESO Public Power Conference, April 28-29, reaching to 300+ attendees in Norman, Oklahoma. MESO also provides administration services to the Municipal Gas Systems of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Gas Association.

APWA

Jerry West, Call Okie, participated in the American Public Works/ Oklahoma Water Environment Association, May 5-7, located in Norman. The event included over 400 decision makers from local government agencies, engineering and consulting firms and public works employees/contractors in the pre-design and excavation process for projects.

ORWA Operator Rodeo

The ORWA Operator Rodeo is geared towards equipment operators training and safety. The event was June 11-12, located at the Payne County Fairgrounds in Stillwater. The event attracted 200 attendees to attend safety classes for digging around underground facilities, shoring and operating excavating equipment. Ditch Witch presented a class for locating lines and operating locating equipment.

Locator Safety Awareness Week

Call Okie Helps Recognize USIC Locators with Top Safety Records



The week of June 22 - 28 is now known as Locator Safety Awareness Week and is a great time to promote safety on the job for those that locate underground utilities and lines in Oklahoma. Locators play a critical role in the safe excavation process and their safety is sometimes taken for granted. So for those locators that make safety a priority every day when they're on the job, Call Okie is going to help recognize them.

Three locators from each of the 20 USIC area offices across Oklahoma will receive special recognition for having the highest quality ratio and ZERO safety incidents. Each one will receive a gift bag with items they can use to help keep them safe from the hot summer elements.

"It's our way to show these locators that we care about their safety and that we appreciate their partnership in helping keep Oklahomans safe during excavation", says Susan Bohl, Executive Director of Call Okie. "We are so fortunate to have a One-Call partner like Call Okie that takes the time to do something like this. We're blown away by their efforts and the special gift bags they provided", said Russell Reeves and John Gilbert with USIC.

Locators are the front line in damage prevention, so let's all be sure to let them know we appreciate their work and their safety.

Don't forget to "Like" us on
Facebook and follow us on
Twitter!



Call Center Happenings!

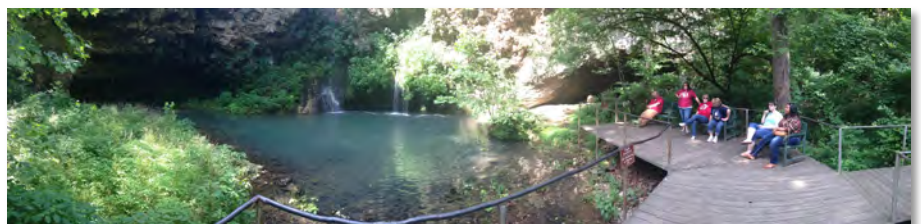
Coordinator Retreat 2014



The Call Okie Coordinators spent a June weekend “camping” and floating along the Illinois River in Tahlequah. They also visited Natural Falls State Park and hiked down to the spring-fed waterfall. The Annual Coordinator Retreat is a weekend trip to various destinations in Oklahoma which allows Coordinators to relax outside of the office environment and gives them a chance to bond on a more personal level. This creates a closer relationship amongst them, which in turn helps them work closer and more efficiently as a team.

The Coordinators, which included Debbie Yager, Hailey Manning, Renelle Freeman, James Eye, Lois Warren, Angie Niemeyer, and Damon Davis, stayed in cabins, but cooked part of their meals over an open campfire to add a sense of “roughing it” to the weekend. They rented rafts and floated 4 miles down the Illinois River. The float trip itself was quite relaxing and everybody had a great time. The Coordinators plotted to leave Debbie on the river to find her own way back to the cabins, but then reconsidered when they realized that they would eventually have to go back to the office in a couple of days.

If you’re looking for a great weekend getaway with your friends or family, check out the Illinois River. Tent, RV, and cabin camping is available at several different resorts along the river. You can rent large rafts, canoes, or even tubes for a leisurely float along the river and life jackets are provided for each person. Each resort will deliver you and your watercraft to its drop-off point upstream and you end back at the resort. This is an incredibly fun trip for both adults and kids!



Dirt-y Jokes!



A little old lady answered her door only to be confronted by a young vacuum cleaner salesman.

"Good morning," said the young man. "If I could take a couple of minutes of your time, I would like to demonstrate the very latest in high-powered vacuum cleaners."

"Go away!" said the old lady. "I haven't got any money," and she proceeded to close the door.

Quick as a flash, the young man wedged his foot in the door.

"Don't be too hasty," he said, "not until you've seen my demonstration."

With that he emptied a bucket of dirt onto her hallway carpet.

"If this vacuum cleaner doesn't remove all traces of this dirt from your carpet, Madam, I will personally eat the remainder."

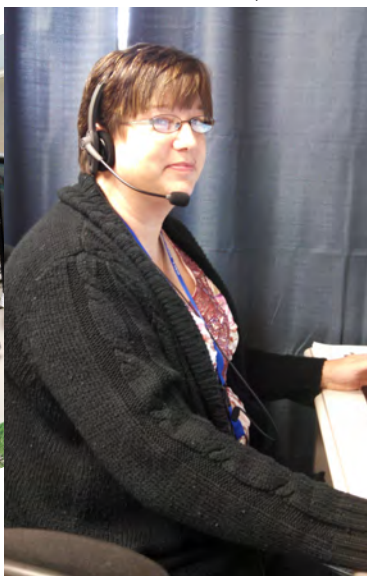
"Well," she said, "I hope you're hungry, because the electricity was cut off this morning."

Welcome New Employees!

Brian Andrews, CSR



Traci Manes, CSR



Shea Dodson, CSR



Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc.

2831 NW 59th
Oklahoma City, OK73112

