

Summer 2025



The Scoop

OKLAHOMA ONE-CALL SYSTEM, INC.

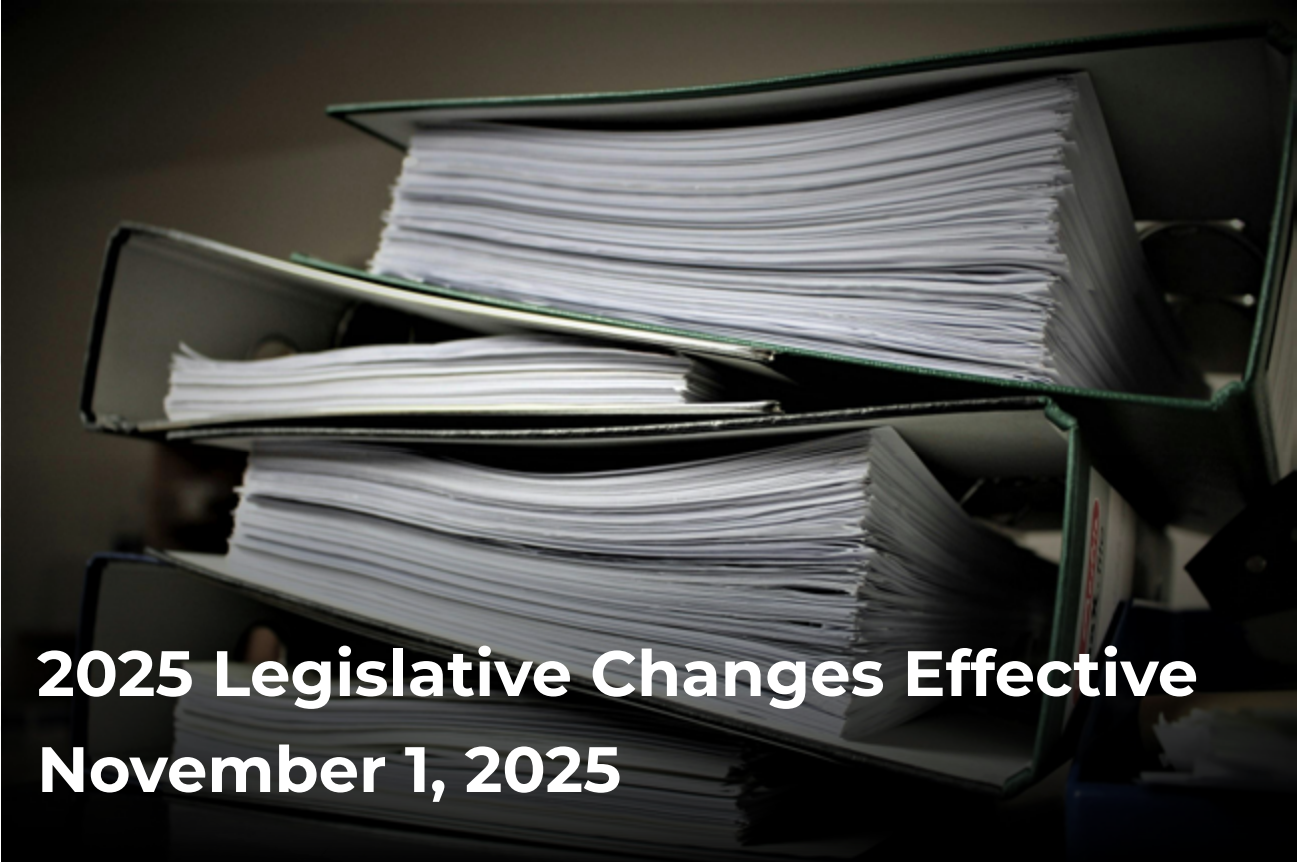


What's Inside

Upcoming Law Changes

Expanding Spanish Outreach

Oklahoma Excavation Safety EXPO



2025 Legislative Changes Effective November 1, 2025



By Susan Bohl, Executive Director

Earlier this year, Representative Cantrell authored HB-1666 in support of County Commissioners wishing to make grading and maintenance of county roads exempt from having to have a locate ticket when performing this type of work. There was much discussion and debate among industry stakeholders, including concerns related to worker safety and prevention of damages to pipelines and other critical underground infrastructure that may be in the path of the grading or maintenance activities.

After many meetings and much discussion, the definition of "excavate", under §63-142.2 was amended to include sub-paragraph "k".

5. "Excavate" means to dig, compress or remove earth, rock or other materials in or on the ground by use of mechanized equipment or blasting, including, but not necessarily limited

to, augering, boring, backfilling, drilling, grading, pile driving, plowing in, pulling in, trenching, tunneling and plowing; provided, however, that neither:

k) any grading or maintenance of county roads that does not change either the existing road grade or ditch flow line,

HB-1666 passed the House in March and then passed the Senate in May. It became law without the Governor's signature on 5/18/2025 and will go into effect November 1, 2025.

If your company or any contractors you do business with is interested in learning more about the Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act, please reach out to our Education & Outreach team by emailing Education@OKIE811.org. They also provide excellent excavation safety workshops and trainings for anyone that is interested.

Welcome to Our New Member Companies

By OKIE811 Member Services

We are excited to welcome our newest members to the Safety and Damage Prevention community! Thank you so much for becoming a member of Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc. dba OKIE811. We look forward to working with you and seeing the great things we can achieve together. We are here for you.

To help you get involved and make the most of your membership, we encourage you to take advantage of the resources and information on the Facility Operators and the Learning Hub pages on our website www.OKIE811.org.

Please join us in extending the following companies a warm welcome. We're excited to have you on board!

No.	Company Name	Classification
1	Eckard Operating LLC	Pipeline
2	Nemaha Gas Gathering	Pipeline
3	Centranet LLC	Telecommunications
4	JM Test Systems LLC	Sustaining
5	Burnt Cabin Rural Water District	Rural Water District
6	Summit Midstream Corp	Pipeline
7	Seaboard Foods LLC	Pipeline
8	Great Horned Owls LLC	Pipeline
9	Shadow Peak Operating LLC	Pipeline
10	Interstate Explorations	Pipeline
11	811spotter	Sustaining
12	Overflow Energy LLC	Pipeline
13	Santa Fe Operating LLC	Pipeline
14	Uniti Leasing	Telecommunications
15	Langston University	Master Meter
16	Washington Town of	Municipality
17	American Transfer LLC	Pipeline
18	Terral Town of	Municipality
19	Kodiak Oil & Gas Inc	Pipeline
20	Public Service Company of OK - Regulated Renewables	Electric Power
21	M.A. Mortenson	Electric Power
22	Marshall County RWD #1	Rural Water district
23	Ritter Communications	Telecommunications
24	Parallel Gas Gathering System LLC	Pipeline



¡Bienvenidos! Expanding Our Reach Through Hispanic Outreach



By Hailey Manning, Education & Outreach Manager

We're proud to introduce a growing chapter in OKIE811's education and outreach efforts: a focused initiative to better serve Oklahoma's Spanish-speaking communities. At the heart of this movement is our new bilingual Education & Outreach Liaison, Luis Rendón, who joined the team in April 2025.

Luis brings an impressive background in multimedia, journalism, public speaking, and bilingual communications. A Regional Emmy Award winner and seasoned content producer, he's worked with organizations like OETA, El Nacional de Oklahoma, and the University of Oklahoma Athletics Department, where he helped launch "Los Sooners," a Spanish-language brand covering OU sports.

In just his first 90 days with OKIE811, Luis has already:

- Delivered engaging presentations in both English and Spanish at workshops and Safety Day events
- Created and translated key outreach materials, videos, and training content
- Formed connections with Spanish-speaking organizations and represented OKIE811 at community events
- Co-hosted episodes of Digging Deep, our official podcast
- Enhanced the 811 Certification Program with new visuals and content recommendations

Luis leads with warmth, creativity, and professionalism, and has quickly become a vital part of our team.

Why Hispanic Outreach Matters

Oklahoma's Hispanic and Latino population continues to grow, with many Spanish-speaking workers and business owners playing key roles in the excavation, construction, landscaping, and utility industries. Yet language barriers and lack of access to translated resources can pose safety risks on the jobsite.

At OKIE811, we believe that damage prevention and safe digging education must be accessible to everyone, regardless of language. Expanding our Spanish-language outreach is more than just a communication strategy, it's part of our mission to prevent underground utility damage and protect lives, property, and infrastructure. By increasing education in Spanish, we reduce the risk of accidents, improve compliance with state law, and create stronger partnerships within the communities we serve.

This initiative supports one of our department's primary goals: to deliver inclusive, effective, and culturally relevant education that reaches all corners of Oklahoma. From translated materials to Spanish-led training, we're committed to meeting people where they are, linguistically and culturally.

Connecting Through Culture and Safety

We recently participated in the Viva Oklahoma Hispanic Expo & Job Fair on July 19, where we connected with hundreds of attendees, distributed safe digging resources and giveaways, and raised awareness about our first-ever fully immersive Spanish Safety Day.

OKIE811's First Fully Immersive Spanish Safety Day

October 3, 2025 – Metro Tech South Bryant Campus, OKC

Join us for a full day of Spanish-language training focused on excavation safety and damage prevention. This free event is designed for excavators, crew members, and industry professionals who speak or prefer to learn in Spanish. All sessions will be led by fluent Spanish-speaking trainers, including Luis himself, who will lead the 811 Certification workshop. Register at okexcavationsafety.com

As we continue to grow our Hispanic outreach, we're committed to developing more Spanish-language content, training materials, and expanding access to the 811 Certification Program. We look forward to what's ahead and are honored to serve all communities across Oklahoma in promoting safe digging practices.



Save the Date!

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
MetroTech Springlake Campus

Join us for an engaging day with OKIE811 at our Annual Meeting of Membership, a complimentary event designed exclusively for our valued Members.

Mark Your Calendar Now

This is a can't miss even. We can't wait to see you there!

Why Attend?

- Connect with fellow members and industry leaders
- Engage with the OKIE811 Board of Directors
- Gain insights from expert perspectives and peer collaboration
- Shape the future of underground damage prevention in Oklahoma

Event Highlights:

- Powerful Networking Opportunities - Visit and learn from industry experts.
- Guest Speaker - To Be Announced
- Appreciation Lunch - Thank you for your dedication to protecting underground infrastructure and promoting safe digging practices.
- Exciting Door Prizes - Our way of saying thanks for all you do.

OKIE811 Fee Schedule for November 2025 Billing



By Susan Bohl, Executive Director

Did you know there are more than 1,300 underground facility operators that are members of the One-Call System in Oklahoma? And we do billing to most of these members every year at the beginning of November.

Our billing cycle is based on the previous 12 months of outbound notifications that are sent to underground facility operators. We pull all outbound notices from November 1, previous year, to October 31, current year, and calculate what each operator's billing will be.

It's a simple formula that we use each year. We take our projected 2026 Operating Budget needs, subtract out all premium service fees and other fees, and divide the balance by the total number of outbound notifications (see example below). This rate then gets applied to each outbound notice to calculate the ticket fee. We then add the total ticket fee and premium service fees to calculate the total membership fee.

Example:

2026 Estimated Budget	\$7,000,000
Less Premium Service Fees	\$590,000
Less Other Fees	\$100,000
Remaining Revenue Needed	\$6,310,000

Total # of Notices	6,934,000
Sample Rate p/Notices	\$0.91 cents

Since OKIE811 is a non-profit organization, our goal is to collect enough revenue to cover the needs of the operation. We are highly conservative with our funds and work hard to keep our operating costs in line so we can keep the fees to our members as feasible as possible.

For questions or assistance with your annual billing, please contact our Member Services Department at member-service@OKIE811.org or 800-522-6544 ext 4003.

Stay Sharp with OKIE811 Webinars Live Every Other Wednesday

Need a refresher on 811 responsibilities? Have questions you've been meaning to ask? Join us for OKIE811's free webinar series, hosted every other Wednesday at 2:00 PM.

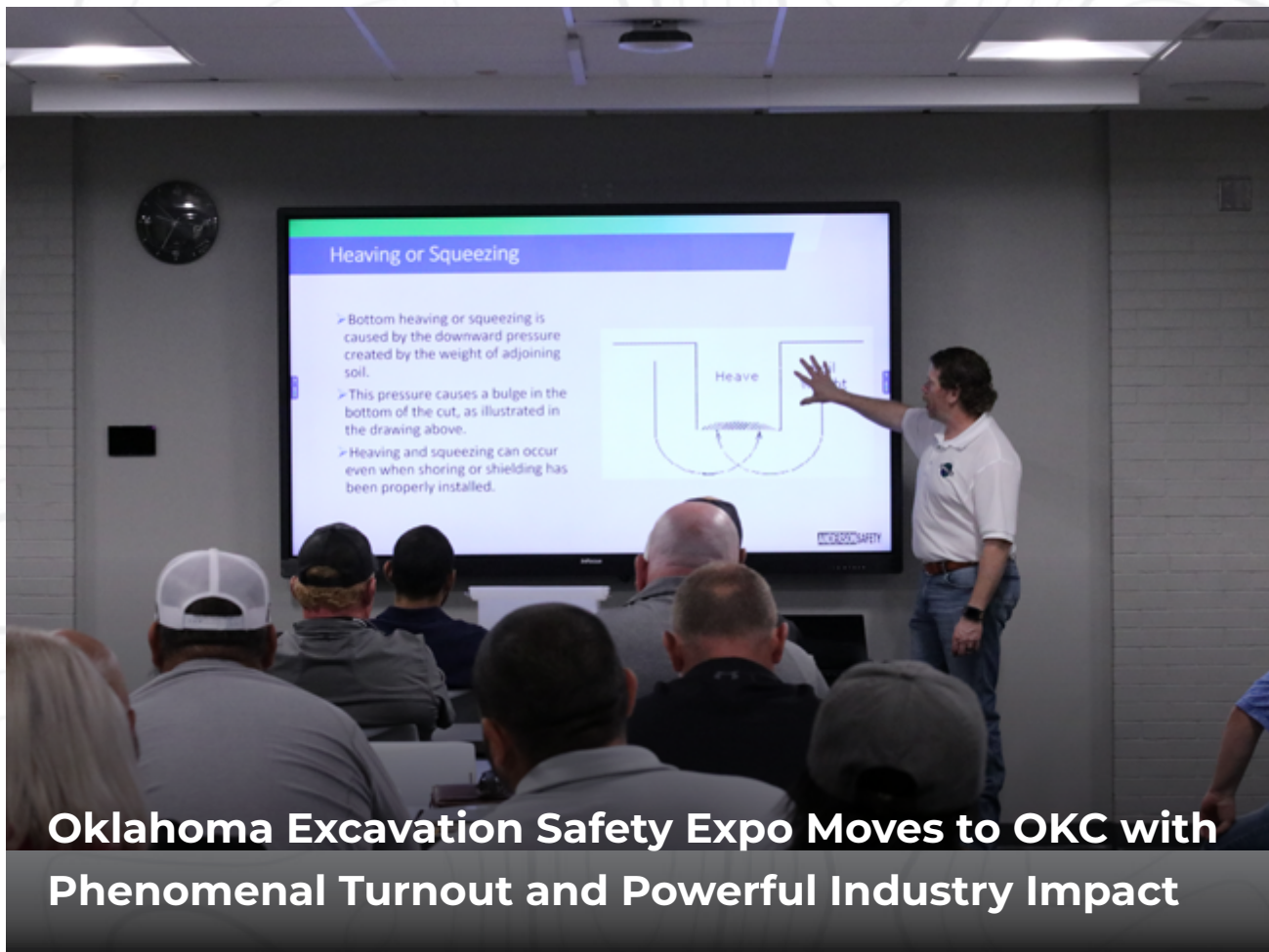
Each month, we feature a mix of topics tailored for both excavators and member companies, covering everything from damage prevention best practices to regulatory updates and tools to streamline your workflow.

Can't attend live?

No problem—most sessions are recorded and available on our YouTube channel, along with past webinars, podcasts, and other helpful content.

Watch and subscribe at: www.YouTube.com/@OKIE811

Whether you're new to the industry or just need a quick refresher, our webinars are a great way to stay informed and connected. We hope to see you at the next one!



Oklahoma Excavation Safety Expo Moves to OKC with Phenomenal Turnout and Powerful Industry Impact



By Hailey Manning, Education & Outreach Manager

Over 200 professionals from across the state gathered in Oklahoma City on March 26-27 for the 2025 Oklahoma Excavation Safety Expo (OESE), a premier training and networking event dedicated to preventing underground utility damage and promoting safe digging practices.

This year marked the first time the Expo was held in Oklahoma City, with sessions hosted at MetroTech's Springlake Campus and a networking event in Bricktown. The move brought new energy and accessibility to the two-day event, drawing contractors, utility operators, municipal workers, and safety leaders from across industries.

Education That Elevates Safety

The Expo featured a robust lineup of expert-led sessions, including pre-Expo workshops on trenching and excavation

safety, utility line locating, and GIS mapping. Participants had the opportunity to earn 811 Certification and attend OKIE811's 44th Annual Meeting of the Membership.

Day two offered more than a dozen targeted breakout sessions covering everything from heavy equipment safety and AI basics to emergency response and workplace communication. Brett Culp, an award-winning filmmaker and keynote speaker, kicked off Thursday's events with an inspiring talk on leadership, connection, and the power of everyday heroes.

Breakout highlights included:

- Hazmat Awareness for Excavators
- Updates to the Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act
- Mastering Online Locate Requests



- Embracing Diversity in the Workplace
- Advanced Ticket Submissions for Large Projects

Casino Night & Golf Bring Industry Together

The Expo wasn't just about education; it was also about connection. Wednesday night's Casino Night, held at Skyline on Bricktown Canal, offered attendees a chance to network in a relaxed setting with games, drinks, and prize giveaways. On Friday, the Excavation Safety Classic Golf Tournament at Lincoln Park Golf Course capped off the week with a friendly scramble tournament hosted in partnership with EPIC (Electric Power Infrastructure Club).

Real-World Impact

One attendee shared this powerful takeaway:

"I took one of my employees who is training to become an operator. My goal was to help him recognize the dangers associated with excavation and operating equipment. I walked away with so much more! I realized areas where we can improve as a whole to elevate safety. I learned that the phrase 'safe enough' holds no place in work safety."

Looking Ahead: What We Learned

Following the event, OKIE811 compiled several key improvements to enhance future expos:

- Increased classroom use and clearer exhibitor hall layouts
- Pre-event walkthroughs to confirm logistics
- Enhanced signage and pre-event communication
- Offering popular sessions multiple times to increase accessibility
- Stronger post-session feedback tools using QR codes and incentives

From the engaging sessions to the networking opportunities and practical training, the 2025 Expo proved that elevating safety is a collective effort, and Oklahoma's excavation professionals are leading the way.

Mark Your Calendars!

Planning is already underway for the 2026 Oklahoma Excavation Safety Expo to be held at MetroTech's Springlake Campus April 1-2, 2026. Stay tuned for more announcements and ways to get involved!

Registration Now Open for the 2026 Oklahoma Excavation Safety Expo!

Mark your calendars! The 2026 Oklahoma Excavation Safety Expo is officially set for the Springlake Campus of Metro Tech in Oklahoma City, and registration is now open.

This annual event brings together excavators, member companies, utility operators, vendors, and safety professionals from across the state, all with one shared goal: promoting safe digging and damage prevention in Oklahoma.

Learn more and register at: www.OKExcavationSafety.com

The Expo will feature:

- Industry-led breakout sessions
- Networking with peers and vendors
- Tools and resources for excavation safety
- Continuing education opportunities

We'll be announcing our keynote speaker and breakout topics soon—follow us on social media to stay in the loop!

Have a breakout session idea? Want to be considered as a presenter?

We're accepting topic suggestions and speaker proposals now. Send your ideas to education@OKIE811.org.

Let's work together to make 2026 our most impactful Expo yet. See you there!





Safety Day Highlights: Training, Certification, and Outreach Across Oklahoma



By M.G. Govia, Sr. Education & Outreach Liaison

This year's Safety Day events have already made a significant impact across the state, with successful sessions held in Elk City, Enid, Ada, Ardmore, and Altus. Each event offered attendees the opportunity to become 811 Certified and earn 8 hours of DEQ continuing education credits—a valuable combination for excavators, operators, and municipal staff alike.

- Topics covered during the training days included:
- 811 Certification & Locate Request Best Practices
- OCC Damage Prevention & Enforcement Updates
- Excavation and Trenching Safety
- Confined Space Awareness

Average attendance at these regional events hovered around 40 participants, showing strong engagement from professionals committed to safety and compliance.

We're not done yet! Two exciting Safety Days remain in 2025:

- Tulsa – August 13: Traditionally our largest and most well-attended Safety Day, featuring expanded breakout sessions and local industry partners.
- Oklahoma City – October 3: Our first-ever immersive Spanish Safety Day, where all sessions will be conducted in Spanish. We are thrilled to welcome Oscar Melendez as our keynote speaker, along with a full day of Spanish-language training and resources.

Thank you to everyone who has attended and helped make these events a success. Stay tuned for more updates and registration information as we wrap up this year's Safety Day series!

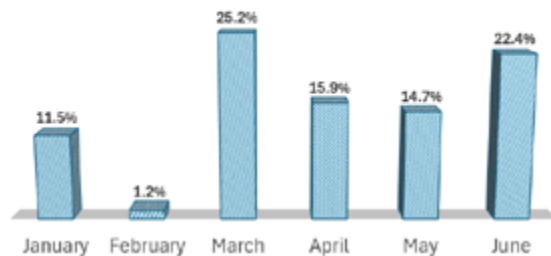
Ticket Trends



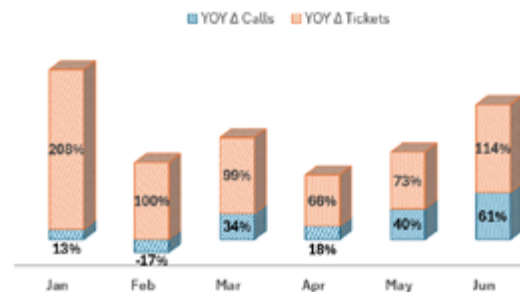
By Jerrell Welch, Sr. Director of Operations

2024 was a busy year for excavation in Oklahoma; now, 2025 activities are well underway to breaking all the records. Inbound locate requests are up over 15% through June with March experiencing an increase of over 25%. April resulted in an all-time high of 117,282 locate requests submitted through OKIE811. We've seen a substantial increase in call and ticket volume from our Spanish-speaking excavators, with a 23% increase in calls and 103% increase in locate requests through June.

2024 VS 2025 % CHANGE IN TICKETS



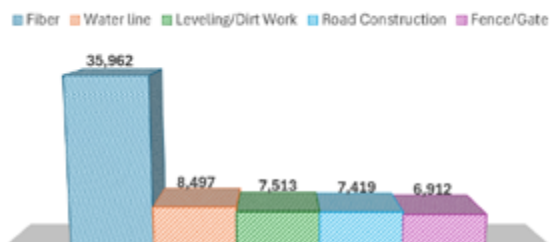
2024 VS 2025 CHANGE IN SPANISH CALLS & TICKETS



The work types with the largest increase in ticket count are Fiber, Water Line, Leveling/Dirt Work, Road Construction, and Fence/Gates. We continue to see the positive impact of infrastructure funding on excavation in Oklahoma with the Top 5 Work Types being Fiber, Water, Electric, Gas, and Road Construction

WORK TYPES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE IN TICKET COUNTS BY INCREASE

*JANUARY-JUNE 2024 VS 2025



Top 5 Work Types by Ticket Count

*January-June 2025

