



PROCLAMATION

City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

WHEREAS, *underground utilities such as natural gas, electric, water, sewer, telecommunications, and fiber infrastructure are essential to the health, safety, and economic vitality of the State of Oklahoma; and*

WHEREAS, *damage to underground facilities during excavation activities poses serious risks to public safety, property, and the environment, and can result in service disruptions, injuries, and significant financial loss; and*

WHEREAS, *Oklahoma law requires anyone planning excavation to notify OKIE811 before digging so underground utilities can be properly marked, helping to prevent accidents and protect workers, homeowners, and communities; and*

WHEREAS, *Safe Digging practices support Oklahoma's infrastructure resilience, protect first responders and utility workers, and promote responsible development across both urban and rural areas; and*

WHEREAS, *public awareness and education regarding the importance of calling 811 before digging plays a vital role in reducing utility damages and keeping Oklahomans safe;*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Debra Wimpee, Mayor of the City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as*

Safe Digging Month

in Oklahoma, and encourage all residents, contractors, businesses, municipalities, and utility professionals to commit to safe excavation practices by calling 811 before every dig, waiting for utility markings, and respecting those markings during excavation activities.

*Mayor Debra Wimpee
City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma*