

**THE EMPIRE DISTRICT GAS COMPANY
ENCOURAGES USE OF ONE CALL SYSTEM**

JOPLIN, MO – April 17, 2017 – Building a fence or planting a tree? Wait! Before you start digging, you need to know what's below. The Empire District Gas Company encourages customers to call before they dig and ask to have the underground utilities located. Simply call 811, the nationwide one call system, or 800-DIG-RITE (800-344-7483), the Missouri One Call system.

This is a free service provided by The Empire District Gas Company and other local utilities. Customers should call at least three, but not more than ten, working days before they plan to dig. The utilities will mark the location of underground facilities so customers can steer clear of them and stay safe.

This single call will allow customers to avoid the possibility of a serious injury and the expense of repair costs for damaged utilities.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company is a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities Co. and headquarters for the Liberty Utilities Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 340,000 customers across seven states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com. For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit www.libertyutilities.com.

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