

Glenda Wiles

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 2:13 PM
To: MACO
Subject: Important One Call Update and Implementation - July 2017

Here are changes that were initiated by HB365 and changed MCA 69-4-5 and were required to be implemented July 1, 2017. [View this email in your browser](#)



Keys Changes to MCA 69-4-5 by HB 365 Effective July 1, 2017

Dear Member or Excavator, below are changes that were initiated by HB365 and changed MCA 69-4-5 and were required to be implemented July 1, 2017.

Since July 1, 2017, fell on a Saturday, Independence falling on Tuesday, and a lot of companies treating Monday as an abbreviated business day or even a holiday, we were concerned with the trying to implement all the changes during this period. We are taking today to notify people of the changes. These changes will take effect, in our system tonight (July 5, 2017) at midnight.

Some these items are easy to implement and do not require additional programming. Some will require additional programming for some of our members to be able to receive them, so we have put in some temporary procedures to comply until the programming can be done, and testing completed, in any case, the new tickets will be in effect no later than October 1, 2017. Please refer to the "Implementation Status" portion under each key change.

Reporting Damage to Underground Facility (HB365, Section 4(4)(a) & (b), pg. 4)

- Excavators are required to contact 9-1-1 if damage to an underground facility results in a release of a gas or a hazardous liquid.
- Excavators are required to report as soon as practicable damage to an underground facility to the underground facility owner. If unable to contact the facility owner, then contact the proper notification center. (based on geographic location of the damage)

Implementation Status: *Call to the facility owner can be started without issue. Call Centers are working on a new notification ticket. Meanwhile, if an excavator damages an underground facility and they are not able to contact the facility owner, the excavator is to contact the call center and just advise the operator of the damage. The excavator is to note the date, time and operators name for their records. There will not be a ticket or notification generated (unless the caller requests a new or updated ticket be made) but the call recording would be available if documentation is ever needed to verify that the call to the center was placed.*

Testing is required to ensure all members can receive the new ticket formats. The new ticket format will commence after testing and members compatibility of the new formats is completed or no later than October 1, 2017.

New Agricultural Locate Request (HB365, Section 13(1)(a) & (b), pg. 10)

- Defines a request based on the perimeter boundary of agricultural field,
- Involves agricultural activity, or
- Conducting soil probing or testing.

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. Call Centers are working on a new notification ticket. Meanwhile, they will*

be processed as a regular 2 Full Business Day Ticket, with a specified in the "Work to be done" field, written as "Agricultural Locate". The call center CSR's will let excavators know guidance regarding "Agricultural Locates" contained in the new laws. On locate requests placed by telephone, the CSR will create a "2 Full Business Days" ticket and enter "Agricultural Locate" in the "Type of Work" field.

The "Type of Work" field in ITIC will include "Agricultural Locate" so it is available for ITIC users to see and select that option. This update will take place at 12 am Mountain Time on Thursday 7/6/17

Testing is required to ensure all members can receive the new ticket formats.

The new ticket format will commence after testing and members compatibility of the new formats is completed or no later than October 1, 2017.

Business Day (HB365, Section 13(2)(a) & (b), pg. 10)

- Clarifies that a business day is from midnight to midnight, Monday through Friday, except Saturday, Sunday, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.
- Clarifies that a holiday is recognized on Friday if it falls on Saturday or on Monday if it falls on a Sunday.

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. All parties involved with must be aware of the impact of the holidays falling on weekends. Nothing else has changed as with the observed holidays, and we have always used the midnight to midnight time frame as a full business day.*

Engineering Locate Request (HB365, Section 13(10), pg. 11)

- Clarifies that a request to identify underground facilities for planning and design purposes. Also, allows facility owners 5 business days to complete marks. Also, defines a locate and mark to be required 5 business days after a meet on site for engineering locates.

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. Call Centers are working on a new notification ticket. Meanwhile, we will continue using the "Pre-Survey" Ticket with the work to begin date as 5 business days from the ticket.*

Testing is required to ensure all members can receive the new ticket formats. The new ticket format will commence after testing and members compatibility of the new formats is completed or no later than October 1, 2017.

Excavation now does not Include: (HB365, Section 13(12)(b), pg. 11)

Plowing, cultivating, planting, harvesting or similar agricultural activities in areas cultivated:

- Within the last 10 years, unless the activities disturb the soil to a depth of 18 inches or more; or
- Within the last 14 months, to a depth greater than 18 inches or more; unless the activities disturb the soil to a depth of more than 24 inches.

Gardening by homeowners or occupants in a previously established garden area unless the gardening disturbs the soil to a depth of 12 inches or more; or Landscaping by homeowners or occupants unless using mechanized equipment or disturbing soil to a depth of 12 inches or more.

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. Does not require any additional procedures at the Call Center or from members.*

Size of Locate Request (HB365, Section 13(27), pg. 13)

Size is now restricted to:

- 2 miles long by 1,000 feet wide in a rural area.
- 2,000 feet long by 300 feet wide within city limits and an area of an authority (see MCA 75-6-304).

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. Does not require any additional procedures from the excavator or members.*

Locate Request excavation work period. (HB365, Section 15(1), pg. 15)

Limited to excavation work intended to start within 10 days and completed within 30 days of the notification. (except for an agricultural locate request for soil probing or testing.

Implementation Status: *Law effective July 1, 2017. Implementation July 6 2017. Does not require any additional procedures at the excavators, Call Center or from members.*

Locate Time Frame (HB365, Section 15(3)(b), pg. 15)

The locate time frame stays the same - two full business days, except for:

- Engineering locate request – 5 business days
- Or as soon as practicable if it is an emergency

Implementation Status: *Call Centers are working on a new notification tickets. Meanwhile, we will continue using the “Pre-Survey” Ticket with the work to begin date as 5 business days from the ticket.*

Testing is required to ensure all members can receive the new ticket formats. The new ticket format will commence after testing and members compatibility of the new formats is completed or no later than October 1, 2017.

Meet On Site Ticket Requests: *Implementation July 6 2017. This will now be handled through the standard 2 Full Business Ticket with the meeting information put in the remarks section of that ticket.* This was used to Indicate that the excavator/caller has requested the locators meet with the excavator at a predesignated place and time to discuss the excavation. They still needed location information to be mapped, to ensure proper notification of affected members. The meeting with all locators was not guaranteed. If members locators are not able to meet at the predesignated place and time, they were expected to make arrangements to meet at a different place and time with the excavator. However, it did not specify a time when things were to be completed, nor allow the locate additional time (2 Full Business Days) to complete the marking. This ticket was not defined in the old or new version of MCA 69-4-5.

Note: This is an abbreviated summary of the changes. For more specifics and details please refer to HB365. After each change heading you will see the section of the bill that made the changes. If you have questions please contact Clint Kalfell, 406-442-3070 or clint.kalfell@montana811.org.



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