WHEREAS; each year, America's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by those who fail to notify the appropriate utilities prior to digging; and

WHEREAS; the Diggers Hotline—Wisconsin's free one-call service that should be used to notify utilities of an intent to dig—can be reached by dialing 8-1-1; and

WHEREAS; upon receiving an excavation notice, utility facility owners are required to dispatch locators to mark the approximate location of underground lines; and

WHEREAS; anyone who engages in excavation, from a homeowner installing a mailbox to a professional excavator completing a major project, is required by law in Wisconsin to call 8-1-1 at least three days before digging; and

WHEREAS; consequences of failing to call 8-1-1 to have underground utility lines located can include disruption of vital utility services, dangerous or costly leaks, environmental damage, fires, explosions, injury, or even death; and

WHEREAS; by making a simple call to 8-1-1, respecting the marked lines, waiting the required amount of time, and digging with care, excavators and homeowners can save time and money and help keep themselves and their neighbors safe and connected; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and the Diggers Hotline in reminding all Wisconsinites that safe digging is a shared responsibility and to call 8-1-1 in advance of any digging project;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

SAFE DIGGING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 22nd day of March 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State