



press release

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SUEZ AND COMMON GROUND ALLIANCE TOGETHER SUPPORT 2017 NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Safety of Our Customers and Communities is Priority as Spring Projects Begin

TOMS RIVER, NJ, April 3, 2017 – SUEZ today reiterated its partnership with Common Ground Alliance (CGA) in supporting the month of April as “Safe Digging Month” and ensuring the safety of our customers, employees and the communities we serve.

The federally-mandated national “Call Before You Dig” number, 811, was created to help protect homeowners, contractors and utilities alike from accidentally striking underground utility lines while working on digging projects.

“We urge residential and business customers to call the 811 number at least three business days before the start of a project, even if it involves planting a tree or installing a backyard patio,” said Jim Mastrolalos, Director of Operations. “Ensuring public safety, protecting the environment, and preventing service interruptions of underground utility infrastructures are extremely vital elements within our communities,” he added.

Recent data from the CGA discloses that underground utility lines are damaged every six minutes throughout the United States because someone decided to dig without first calling 811. The depth of utility lines can differ due to previous digging projects or uneven surfaces.

“CGA is proud to partner with SUEZ in order to keep their service territories safe as well as protect vast and complex underground systems,” said Sarah K. Magruder Lyle, President of CGA. “Digging without knowing the approximate location of underground utilities increases the likelihood of unintentional rupture, which can cause not only serious injuries, but trigger major service disruptions which can add up to significant restoration costs,” she said.

One simple call to 811 is connected to a local “one call” notification center where all information is communicated to local utility companies. A professional locator then visits the dig site to mark the approximate location of all underground utility lines with spray paint or flags at no charge. Once a site has been correctly marked, it is safe to begin digging around the marked areas.

CGA (www.commongroundalliance.com) has established itself as the leading organization to reduce damages to all underground facilities in North America.

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SUEZ

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About Common Ground Alliance

CGA is a member-driven association of nearly 1,700 individuals, organizations and sponsors in every facet of the underground utility industry. Established in 2000, CGA is committed to saving lives and preventing damage to North American underground infrastructure by promoting effective damage prevention practices. CGA has established itself as the leading organization to reduce damages to underground facilities in North America through shared responsibility among all stakeholders.

About SUEZ in North America

SUEZ in North America operates across all 50 states and Canada with 3,560 employees dedicated to environmental sustainability and leading the resource revolution. The company provides drinking water, wastewater and waste collection service to 7.4 million people on a daily basis; treats 570 million gallons of water and 815 million gallons of wastewater each day; offers water treatment and advanced network solutions to 16,000 industrial and municipal sites; processes 55,000 tons of waste for recycling; rehabilitates and maintains water assets for more than 4,000 municipal and industrial customers; and manages \$4.1 billion in total assets. The company posted revenues of \$1.25 billion in 2015 and is a subsidiary of Paris-based SUEZ.

SUEZ

We are at the dawn of the resource revolution. In a world facing high demographic growth, runaway urbanization and the shortage of natural resources, securing, optimizing and renewing resources is essential to our future. SUEZ (Paris: SEV, Brussels: SEVB) supplies drinking water to 92 million people, delivers wastewater treatment services to 65 million, collects waste produced by 34 million, recovers 16.3 million tons of waste each year and produces 5,853 GWh of local and renewable energy. With 82,500 employees, SUEZ, which is present on all five continents, is a key player in the sustainable management of resources. SUEZ generated total revenues of \$17.1 billion in 2015.

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