



[www.northernnaturalgas.com](http://www.northernnaturalgas.com), then click on safety and public awareness

## **Overview**

The most common form of pipeline excavation damage for Northern Natural Gas (Northern) facilities continues to be damages caused during drain tile projects.

## **Pipeline Damage by Drain Tilers**

Damage to pipelines by drain tilers occurs mainly in the states of Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska, occasionally in South Dakota and Wisconsin. The most common timeframes for damage to occur is during the spring and fall. While statistics show that the “*Call Before You Dig*” message is effective with the fulltime professional excavation contractor this is not always the case with part-time, non-professional drain tilers. An example would be a farmer that purchases drain tile installation or repair equipment and uses it only on an occasional basis for small projects on his property or neighboring properties.

## **Eliminate Damages**

Educate all customers that use drain tile products and equipment about damage prevention safety and the potentially severe consequences of damaging a pipeline. Identify drain tile equipment dealers, manufacturers, suppliers and distributors that would partner with Northern in this outreach effort.

## **Outreach Objectives and Partnership Opportunities**

1. Promote 811 on websites.
2. Ask manufacturers to print the 811 logo and message on their products, possibly tag their drain tile rolls with the 811 logo, include 811 stickers on equipment, on invoices, in newsletters, on receipts, on shipping boxes, etc
3. At point of sale locations ask distributors to include “*Call Before You Dig*” material at the time of product purchase. An example would be adding the 811 logo or other materials near the product displays.
4. Seek opportunities to offer educational damage prevention articles for websites, newsletters, owner’s manuals, training material and trade magazines. Offer educational presentations for training sessions and industry meetings.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

[www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com)