

# MISS UTILITY OF DELMARVA



## The Scoop



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

### A Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2017

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2017 CGA Conference 10 Yr. Anniversary for 811



### President's Message

Dear Friends,

This is shaping up to be a busy year. We've worked diligently to spread the Damage Prevention message during April, Safe Dig Month and are in full swing with a radio campaign and several community events. We have arranged to have the One Call Concepts 811 Bike and Car designed by Paul Jr displayed the last three days of the State Fair in Harrington. Hope you were able to stop by and see the vehicles and talk to the Miss Utility representatives.

As a reminder, we are in Hurricane season. If we have a bad storm and there is storm damage, we still have to contact Miss Utility before we dig. The danger underground does not go away just because we are in an emergency or recovery situation.

Please remember that the contact number on your excavate ticket should reach a "live" person. If a locator needs instructions, directions or a question answered so they can locate utility facilities on your property and they reach voice mail, you have just delayed the response. Help them to keep your project on track by having good timely communication contacts.

The Miss Utility system is free to the user because it is paid for by the utilities. As such, the utilities only locate their underground facilities. Excavators need to arrange for a private contractor to locate the owner/private utilities.

We have an updated Miss Utility of Delmarva Handbook, dated January 3, 2017. Pick some up at the monthly Miss Utility meetings or contact us and we will arrange to get one to you. Remember, "Contact Miss Utility of Delmarva before you dig, Obey the law, Wait for responses, Respect the marks and Dig Safely". Have a great summer!

Bradley C. Ebaugh

### Invitation to participate in Miss Utility of Delmarva Damage Prevention and Safety

Miss Utility of Delmarva members are interested in your concerns and will assist in any way possible to address your concerns. Come meet the members, contract locators, excavators, call center personnel and other stakeholders at the monthly Damage Prevention meetings.

All aspects of damage prevention and safety are discussed and your voice matters.

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday every month at various locations on Delmarva. Please visit [www.missutilityofdelmarva.com](http://www.missutilityofdelmarva.com) for dates, directions and copies of the meeting minutes and attendance.

## 2016 Locator Achievement Awards



On Thursday, April 27, 2017, Miss Utility of Delmarva was proud to present the 2016 Locator Achievement Awards! This great event was hosted by Harrington Raceway and Casino, and it recognized those underground utility locators who had excelled in their job during 2016. These locators had ZERO at-fault damages, ZERO safety incidents and exhibited excellent working relationships with the excavation community.

We also had a special speaker this year, as Khrysanne Kerr, the VP of Communications from the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) was on hand to not only personally thank all of our winners, but to also deliver an inspiring message as to why what we do is so important, and why locators, such as our winners, are such an integral part in the entire process.

We commend the hard work and dedication that all locators bring each day. Working in the heat, cold, rain, snow and wind isn't easy, and doing it great is even harder. Congratulations to all of the 2016 Locators of the Year, and we look forward to honoring 2017's winners!

### Special Thanks to the Banquet Committee

Bradley Ebaugh, Chairman-President  
Miss Utility of Delmarva—Delaware Electric Co-op, Inc.

Jason Lyon, Committee Member-Vice President  
Miss Utility of Delmarva—City of Dover

Tony Gersitz, Committee Member  
Miss Utility of Delmarva

Steve Keyser, Committee Member  
Miss Utility of Delmarva

Dora Parks, Committee Member  
One Call Concepts, Inc.

## Miss Utility Recognizes Winners of Third Annual Scholarship Program

On June 20, Miss Utility of Maryland and Washington, D.C., hosted a celebratory luncheon to recognize the 2016-2017 scholarship program award winners. In its third year, the program awarded eight \$1,008.11 single-year scholarships to high school seniors from the Maryland and Washington, D.C., area. The winners were selected from an applicant pool of nearly 250 students after a review of letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, academic records and personal essays explaining the importance of Miss Utility and how it will impact their future careers.

Miss Utility of Delmarva partnered with the scholarship program and provided an award to the winner from the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

### This year's scholarship recipients include:

Megan McGee, York College  
Braden Buegel, Frostburg State University  
Autumn Jenkins, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Sarah King, Yale University  
Cameron Smith, University of Maryland  
Jacoby Hicks, Old Dominion University  
Jordan Harmon, North Carolina A&T State University  
Morgan Harvey, Delaware Valley University

And our winner is Morgan Harvey with Delaware Valley University, CONGRATULATIONS!

## Miss Utility of Delmarva Board



**Left to Right:** Steve Keyser with Chesapeake Utilities, Eric Cimo with DelDot, Tony Gersitz Honorary Member, Brad Ebaugh, President of Miss Utility of Delmarva with Delaware Electric Cooperative, Wendy Stack with WLOCCO, LLC, Dwayne Olivieri with Delmarva Power and Mike Burns with Utiliquest. (Taken at the 2016 Greater Chesapeake Damage Prevention Training Conference)



## Trenching and Excavation Safety



In an instant and without notice, an unsupported trench can give way and a worker can be buried alive. “Even though small amounts of dirt may not seem treacherous, a single cubic yard of dirt can weigh more than 3,000 pounds, which can fatally crush or suffocate workers.

OSHA notes that excavation and trenching are among the most hazardous construction operations, with cave-ins being “perhaps the most feared trenching hazard.”

Other hazards in this line of work include falls, hazardous atmospheres and falling loads. From 2000 to 2009, 350 workers died in trenching or excavation cave-ins. How can employers help keep workers safe?

### Planning is paramount.

It is recommended that employers do the following before beginning a trenching or excavation project:

- Designate a trained competent person to check that all safety precautions are in place. In relation to trenching, OSHA defines a competent person as “an individual who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards or working conditions that are hazardous, unsanitary, or dangerous to workers, soil types and protective systems required, and who is authorized to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate these hazards and conditions.”
- Call 811 to ensure no utility lines are in the job area and to mark any existing lines.
- Don’t forget that the Utility owners notified through the 811 call, do not locate private utilities. Today’s private utilities are found not only on private properties, but can be in our right of ways and also crossing roadways. It is suggested to contact a Private Locating Company for verification of location prior to start of your project.

- Locate safe places away from the trench to place spoil piles and heavy equipment paths.
- Ask the competent person to determine what kinds of protective systems will be needed for the job, and have the systems in place before workers are allowed on-site.
- Enforce the rule that workers who are younger than 18 are not allowed in the trench.
- Assign workers to the job only if they have been trained about hazards and work practices in a language – and at a literacy level – they understand.
- Have an emergency action plan in place that details steps to take in the event of a trench incident.
- Have an emergency action plan in place that details steps to take in the event of a trench incident.
- Make sure workers know never to enter an unprotected trench.
- Teach workers to immediately exit a trench and call for the competent person if they find any evidence of problems with the protective trenching system.

### *Dig Safely! Go Home Alive!*

## CGA Conference 2017



## Ask Miss Utility

### Why are Utility Owners/Members responsible for reporting damages?

Good Question! As per Miss Utility of Delmarva by-laws, all members are required to report damages monthly for statistical analysis in developing education programs. Reporting is easy and forms are available on the web site: ([www.missutilitydelmarva.com](http://www.missutilitydelmarva.com)) by selecting "Reporting" from the green line". The rest is simple, just fill in the blanks. If further assistance is needed, please feel free to contact any board member with any questions. You can see the list of Board Members by selecting "About Us" on the above website.

Dig Safe!

	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017
Reported Damages	36	47	36
Tickets	88,138	119,255	114,903
Percentage	0.041%	0.039%	0.031%

### Editorial Staff

**Bradley C. Ebaugh**—President

**Jason A. Lyon**—Vice President

Chair, Public Awareness Committee

**Dwayne Olivieri**—Secretary

**Eric Cimo**—Treasurer

**Wendy Stack**—Board Member

**Teresa P. McCann**—Editor

**Contributing Writers:** Bradley Ebaugh, Mike Burns, & Wendy Stack

## CGA Conference Fun

Miss Utility Delmarva President, Brad Ebaugh, at the CGA 2017 event, enjoying some educational fun!



### Questions/Comments?

This newsletter belong to you, so ideas and topics are welcomed. Send your comments, questions and suggestions to Wendy Stack at [w.stack@mchsi.com](mailto:w.stack@mchsi.com).

WE WANT  
TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!

## Calendar of Events

### Miss Utility Meetings

**August 17, 2017**

#### Town of Smyrna

Public Works Building  
220 Artisan Drive  
Smyrna, DE 19977

**September 21, 2017**

#### DeIDOT

South District Office  
23697 South DuPont Blvd.  
Georgetown, DE 19947

**October 19, 2017**

#### One Call Concepts

180 Maple Dale Circle  
Dover, DE 19904

**November 16, 2017**

#### Easton Utilities

201 N. Washington Street  
Easton, MD 21601



### Special FREE Event Training

**September 7th, 2017**

#### Miss Utility Breakfast & Training Seminar—7—9:30 a.m.

Delmarva Power Conference Center—4100 S. Wakefield Dr.  
Newark, DE 19702

**August 15, 2017 (Tues)**

#### Delaware Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting

Delaware State Fairgrounds  
Harrington, DE 19952

**August 16-19, 2017 (Weds)**

#### Maryland Assoc. of Counties

Roland Powell Convention Center  
4001 Coastal Hwy.  
Ocean City, MD 21842

**August 19, 2017 (Sat)**

#### Middletown Peach Festival

Main Street  
Middletown, DE 19709

## "MARK YOUR CALENDER"

## REGISTRATION OPEN NOW



**Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel**

**10100 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842**

Please check our website [www.missutilitydelmarva.com](http://www.missutilitydelmarva.com) for updates on events.