

April is National Safe Digging Month

As the days get warmer and you start to plan your Spring and Summer outdoor projects, 811 would like you to make sure that you call before you dig. Here are some tips to help you plan a safe dig in your yard.

1. **Notify** - Even if you are wanting to complete a shallow dig, calling 8-1-1 before you dig could help save you time and money. Mark the excavation site with white spray paint. Call New Mexico 811 at least 2 working days before you dig. Affected utility operators will be notified. The 811 call center is available 24 hrs. a day, even on weekends & most holidays. You can also request services online at www.nm811.org.
2. **Wait** - The legal 2 day notice allows New Mexico 811 utility operators to examine their underground facility records and respond to your request. On average, between 4-10 utility operators are notified for each request.
3. **Confirm** - Confirm that all affected utility operators have responded to your request and have marked the appropriate utility services by comparing what is marked on your site to the list of utilities that the 811 center notified. Excavators are required by law to wait until all utility operators have provided markings or some form of response to their excavation request. Please check with nm811.org or call 8-1-1 if you are unsure or need more information.
4. **Respect** - The marks provided by the affected utility operators are your guide for the duration of your project. If any of the markings are not visible, you must call 811 or resubmit your online request to have your project marked again by the affected utilities. You must have a valid ticket for the entire duration of your excavation. **NOTE:** A NM811.org ticket is valid for 15 working days.
5. **Dig Carefully** - Hand excavate within 24 inches of the marked utility facilities. Facilities that are in conflict with your excavation are to be located with hand tools and protected before power equipment is used. Notify the affected utilities of any contact or damage to their facilities. If you accidentally damage a utility line, call the utility you just damaged to notify them. Utilities have 24 hour round the clock call service for their lines and normally have someone on call to send out and assess the situation. Smell gas? Leave the premises and then call 911.

ALWAYS POTHOLE

to confirm the location
of buried utilities.

Underground lines are
hit almost **20x a day**
because someone dug
without potholing first.*

Once buried utilities are marked,
always pothole to confirm the
location of the utilities before
digging to avoid
damaging a
utility line during
excavation.

*SOURCE: 2021 DIRT Report

Utility lines are marked with different colors to indicate the type of utility present underground.

Here's a quick guide:

Red: Electric power lines, cables, conduit, and lighting cables

Yellow: Gas, oil, steam, petroleum, or other gaseous materials

Orange: Communication, alarm line, signal lines, cables, or conduit

Blue: Potable water

Green: Sewers and drain lines

Purple: Reclaimed water, irrigation, and slurry lines

Pink: Temporary survey markings

White: Proposed excavation sites

These color codes help ensure safety and prevent damage during excavation or construction projects.

Electric

Reclaimed Water

Gas/Oil/Steam/Chemical

Sewer

Communication

Water

Temp. Service Markings

Proposed Excavation



Zia Natural Gas Company
Your Community Partner | www.zngc.com



RECIPE

Lemon Blueberry Bundt Cake



Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 3/4 cups granulated sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour (for coating blueberries)
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 tbs. lemon juice

Instructions:

1. **Preheat the oven** to 350°F. Grease and flour a Bundt pan.
2. **Mix dry ingredients:** In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
3. **Cream butter and sugar:** In a large bowl, beat the butter and granulated sugar until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Mix in the vanilla extract, lemon zest, and lemon juice.
4. **Combine wet and dry ingredients:** Gradually add the flour mixture to the butter mixture, alternating with the buttermilk, beginning and ending with the flour mixture. Mix until just combined.
5. **Prepare blueberries:** In a small bowl, toss the blueberries with 2 tablespoons of flour to coat. Gently fold the blueberries into the batter.
6. **Bake:** Pour the batter into the prepared Bundt pan and smooth the top. Bake for 50-60 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Let the cake cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then turn it out onto a wire rack to cool completely.
7. **Make the glaze:** In a small bowl, whisk together the powdered sugar and 2 tbs. of lemon juice until smooth. Drizzle the glaze over the cooled cake.

End of Winter Moratorium Protection

Protection from winter shut-off ends March 15, 2025. If you have participated in the LIHEAP program throughout the winter months, to avoid a potential service disconnection, please contact Zia Natural Gas Company to make arrangements for payment. Members of the New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the Commission's Consumer Relations Division at (888) 427-5772, who will then contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ruidoso

April 10th Champions of Magic The Champions Of Magic team bring you an explosive show featuring thrilling and mind-bending illusions. Fusing their skills in grand scale magic, a flair for spectacle and undeniable showmanship, this interactive, high-energy show is sure to entertain the entire family. Located at Spencer Theater, tickets starting at \$49, includes meal and starts at 7pm.

April 19th Eric Elison Eric Elison, known as, the Lightfoot of the Rockies, performs a tribute to the beloved Canadian Troubadour Gordon Lightfoot. Elison's band is stacked with talented, first-rate musicians that have played with the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, Charley Pride, and "Weird Al" Yankovic. Located at Spencer Theater, tickets starting at \$49, includes meal and starts at 7pm.

Hobbs

April 10th 2025 Women's Symposium Enriched: The Power of Resilience Enjoy shopping and light bites with local vendors! Meet with non-profits to find ways to plug in and enrich your life or others! Celebrate the Women United award recipients! Give back through the Power of the Purse fundraiser raffle! Doors open at 5pm at Tydings Auditorium.

April 26th & 27th Gus Macker The Hobbs Downtown Slam & Jam Gus Macker Basketball Tournament will be here soon! Mark your calendars for April 26-27 for an epic weekend of 3-on-3 basketball! Whether you're playing for prizes, bragging rights, or just the love of the game, this annual tradition is not to be missed! 200 E. Broadway in downtown Hobbs.

Las Cruces

April 19th Earth Day 2025 at Plaza De Las Cruces Join us for a day of fun, learning, and community as we celebrate Earth Day! Enjoy family friendly activities, educational booths, meet Libby the dog, and more—all focused on sustainability and taking care of our planet. Let's work together to create a greener, more beautiful Las Cruces! 9am - 1pm at 411 N. Main St. Admission is free.

Reminder: We use this section for our local communities. The messages must be non-partisan and non-religious. Non-profit organizations messages will be given preference. Please send the information to csifuentes@znqc.com before the 10th of the month to make the following month edition. Thank you.



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