



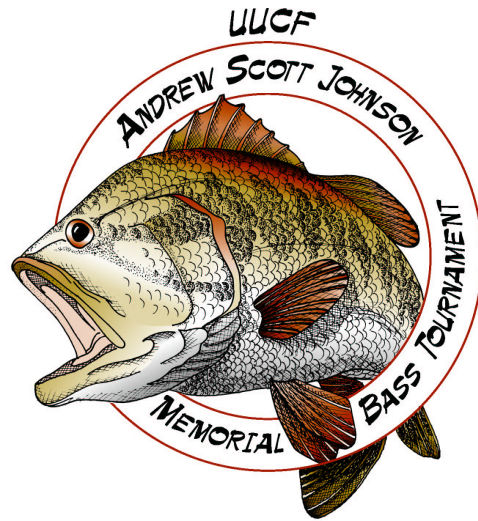
Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

JANUARY 2013

UUCF/ ASJMSF Annual Bass Fishing Tournament *(See page 4 for details)*



UUCF Board Meeting and Walk the Halls of the Capitol *(See page 12 for details)*



Doubletree by Hilton Tallahassee
101 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida
April 1 – 2, 2013

UUCF has secured a block of rooms at the Doubletree by Hilton Tallahassee on the nights of Sunday, March 31, 2013 and Monday, April 1, 2013.

Run of the House Guest Room — \$129.00 (Single/Double Occupancy)
Choose from either a King Bed or two double beds. *(All requests are subject to availability).*

*The above room and room rate is based on availability and
does not include applicable taxes (subject to change) at 12.5%.*

*One night's deposit or a credit card number is required to guarantee accommodations. Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 24-hours prior to arrival and cancellation number must be obtained. Please return reservation and deposit as soon as possible.

Reservations can be made by either the following:

- Call reservations at (800) 222-8733 (be sure to ask for the Underground Utility room block), or
- Go on-line to <http://www.tallahassee.doubletree.com>. Enter arrival and departure date. Scroll down and click on "Add special rate codes." Type in UCF next to Group code and click check availability. Follow the instructions to complete a new reservation.

The UUCF room block expires on Friday, March 8, 2013. After Friday, March 8, 2013, UUCF cannot guarantee hotel accommodations or the group room rate at the Doubletree by Hilton Tallahassee. Check-in time is 3:00 p.m., and check-out time is 12:00 noon.

.....
TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida
April 1 – 2, 2013

Please make ____ reservation(s) for the UUCF Executive Committee Meeting on Monday, April 1, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at the Governors Club.

Name(s) of those attending _____

Please make ____ reservation(s) for the UUCF Conference Committee Meeting on Monday, April 1, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at the Governors Club.

Name(s) of those attending _____

Please make ____ reservation(s) for the lunch at 12:00 noon and the UUCF Board of Director's Meeting on Monday, April 1, 2013 from 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Governors Club.

Name(s) of those attending _____

Name _____ Telephone # (____) _____
Company _____ FAX # (____) _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Please complete and mail to UUCF no later than Friday, March 8, 2013:

UUCF
231 West Bay Avenue
Longwood, FL 32750-4125
Phone: (407) 830-1880 • FAX: (407) 260-1582





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Sunshine 811 Representative

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UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation Schedules Thirteenth Annual Bass Fishing Tournament

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation will be holding its two-day Bass Fishing Tournament on Friday, March 1 – Saturday, March 2, 2013 on the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes on Lake Toho at the Big Toho Marina. This tournament has been organized to raise funds for the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation. The Fishing Tournament Chairman Scott Johnson has been working hard planning this event.

There will be a mandatory Captain's Meeting on Thursday, February 28, 2012 at The Heritage Park Inn in Kissimmee. One representative from each team must be present at this meeting. The weigh-in for each day's tournament will be held at the Big Toho Marina. An Angler Dinner will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 1 at The Heritage Park Inn.

The tournament will be a two-day event. Five fish per boat, per team, per day. There is a minimum of two people on a team. No team can consist of more than three people. Paid professional guides cannot be considered as a team member. This will be a catch and release tournament and will be scored in accordance with the B.A.S.S. guidelines. However, the use of live bait is permitted! (After all, this is for FUN!) Professional guide services are available through the foundation.

The schedule for both days is as follows: Check in/Registration starting at 6:30 a.m.; Cast Off at 7:00 a.m. (or safe light); and Weigh-in starts at 2:00 p.m. There will be a registration fee for this event. The registration fee will include a T-Shirt, hat and raffle ticket. Hotel accommodations, meals, bait,

boats and professional guides are not included in the registration fee.

Angler, Boat/Guide, Lunch, Shiners and Hotel Registration Forms were e-mailed to the UUCF membership and are available on the UUCF website at www.uucf.com.

UUCF is also accepting companies to be a part of the Major, General, Captain's Meeting Happy Hour, Angler Dinner Beverage, Angler Dinner, Weigh-In and Trophy Sponsorship Programs. All sponsorship forms were e-mailed to the UUCF membership and are available on the UUCF website at www.uucf.com.

It's not too late to sponsor or register for the Bass Fishing Tournament. Complete the sponsorship and/or registration form and return to the UUCF office as soon as possible.

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation would like to thank the following companies for committing to be a sponsor of the 2013 Annual Bass Fishing Tournament:

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Weigh-In Sponsors:

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Captain's Dinner Happy Hour Sponsors:

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- Concrete Products of the Palm Beaches, Inc.
- Johnson-Davis, Inc.

Angler Dinner Sponsor:

- Johnson-Davis, Inc.

Major Sponsors:

- Burck Oil Company, Inc.
- Burkhardt Construction, Inc.
- Charles S. Whiteside, Inc.
- Hubbard Construction Company, Inc.
- The Mack Company
- Trio Development Corporation
- Wakefield Road Boring, Inc.

General Sponsors:

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- Belvedere Contracting, Inc.
- Bruce & Julie Kershner
- C & M Road Builders, Inc.
- Guymann Construction of Florida
- John Woody, Inc.
- LGM Contracting Inc./Merucci Equipment Co.
- Mark "Tommy" McCabe, Jr.
- Pete & Nettie Thomson
- Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.
- Rangeline Tapping Services, Inc.
- Simmons and White Civil & Traffic Engineers
- Thompson Pump & Manufacturing Co., Inc.
- Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc.

Proceeds from this tournament benefit the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation scholarship program. Since it

inception in 2000, the foundation is proud to have awarded \$221,500.00 in scholarships to individuals who are entering or enrolled in college.

In Memory of

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of longtime SUCA member, Peter A. Thomson, 65, of Odessa, Florida. Pete passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 19, 2013. Pete was born October 13, 1947 in Mt. Carmel, the son of Roy "Tommy" and Priscilla (Adams) Thomson. He married Annette "Nettie" Wojdula on May 13, 1989.

Pete is survived by his wife Annette "Nettie", two sons, Steven (Tracy) Thomson of West Salem, IL, Scott (Tracy) Thomson of Alpharetta, GA, and a daughter, Amy Thomson of Asheville, NC, seven grandchildren, Andrew, Lauren and Evan Thomson, Spencer, Adam, and Paige Thomson, and Jesse Weiss, three sisters, Sara (Steve) Storckman and Kathi (Ron) Biehl of Mt. Carmel, IL and Marti Thomson (Ted Quirk) of Oak Harbor, WA, two nephews Shawn (Stephanie) Storckman, Greg (Whitney) Bader, and four nieces Michelle (Jason) Moersch, Megan (John) Quirk, Kristen and Ashley Quirk.

Pete graduated from Mt. Carmel High School in 1965. He graduated Southern Illinois University in 1972 with a degree in Accounting and Finance and obtained the CPA designation. He worked in the insurance industry for more than 30 years. At his passing, he was Director of Construction Services Division for Lykes Insurance. He was an avid sailor and was a licensed Captain.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made in Pete's memory to one of the following organizations:

- Keystone United Methodist Church
- Disabled American Veterans
- American Cancer Society

Our thoughts and prayers are with Nettie, the Thomson family and friends.

State Certified Underground Utility & Excavation Exam

February 19-20, 2013
April 16-17, 2013
June 18-19, 2013

Applications may be obtained by logging on to
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Do Business with a Member!





UUCF

UUCF 2013 Conference

July 25–28, 2013
Boca Raton Resort & Club
Boca Raton, FL

Mark your calendar now for the UUCF 2013 Annual Conference which will be held on July 25–28 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton, FL.

The UUCF 2013 Conference Chairperson is Kim Bryan with Petticoat–Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. in Jacksonville, FL.

**Watch for information on the 2013 Conference
in future issues of the Ditchmen.**

CGA Excavation Safety Conference & Expo

In its eighth year, the CGA 811 Excavation Safety Conference & Expo is produced by Infrastructure Resources, LLC. With the endorsement, sponsorship and partnership of major organizations in the underground industry, the conference and expo has become the largest gathering of damage prevention and excavation personnel.

The CGA 811 Excavation Safety Conference & Expo offers many educational, networking and informational opportunities. To learn more about activities at this comprehensive event, please visit the following links:

- **CGA Annual Meeting and Breakfast**
- **Conference Sessions**
- **Workshops**

Want more information? Call Infrastructure Resources at (866) 279-7755.

For a registration form, please go to **Page 24** in this issue of the *Ditchmen*.



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DBPR Update

A Message from DBPR Secretary

Dear Friends,
One of the best things about our Department is that it is so unique and covers so many professionals and businesses that are crucial to the success of our state's economy. Our job is to be partners with those that we regulate and any time we see positive news about those industries, we are excited and we want to celebrate with them.

Recently, we have seen various news stories forecasting an uptick in the **real estate industry** and the **construction industry** throughout 2013 in our state. As we all know, the real estate and construction industries employ thousands across Florida and have an impact on nearly all of us. As two of the largest professions that fall under DBPR, we couldn't be

happier at the predictions that say they are on their way to recovery because a strong recovery means more jobs and a successful economy in our state. We will continue to do our part to cheer them on as the predictions come to fruition, and look forward to even more positive news in the future!

Sincerely,

Ken Lawson
Secretary

Department of Business and
Professional Regulation
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Customer Contact Center:
(850) 487-1395
www.MyFloridaLicense.com

State Agency Unveils Unlicensed Activity Media Campaign

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) recently unveiled its annual unlicensed activity media campaign to educate consumers on the dangers of doing business with an unlicensed individual. Throughout the multi-component educational campaign, DBPR will be encouraging consumers in Florida to check for professional licensure and to hire only licensed professionals.

"Unlicensed individuals take away jobs from qualified individuals who have demonstrated competency in their respective field," said DBPR Secretary Ken Lawson. "Doing business with those who are unlicensed can also cause serious personal and financial harm to consumers, so it is crucial that they hire only licensed professionals."

(Continued on Page 9)



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Sunshine 811 Damage Prevention Forum

"Making Florida the Safest Place to Dig"

Sponsored by:

Date Wednesday, February 13, 2013
Time 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center, Meeting Room A-1
505 West Pensacola St., Tallahassee, FL 32301
Cost FREE – Register Today – Space Limited to 80



8:30 am Registration

9 am *Welcome* – Brad Martin, Sunshine 811

9:15 am *Florida Energy Pipeline Association* – Rob Wilson,

9:30 am *Making Florida the Safest Place to Dig* – Cheryl Ritter,

9:45 am *5 Steps to Safer Digging* – Video presentation

10 am *Common Ground Alliance* – Khrysanne Kerr

10:30 am *Break*

10:40 am *Door Prizes*

IRTH One Call System – Bill Heath, Sunshine 811 Technical Operations Manager

10:45 am Do you know how Sunshine 811 manages more than 1 million ticket requests annually? Learn about the software that is the backbone of Sunshine 811 and about how utilities are mapped into the system.

What is Positive Response and Why Should I Check it? – Brad Martin, Sunshine 811

11:10 am Positive Response tells you what to expect at the excavation site. It is essential to safe digging.

The Case for New Legislation – Mark Sweet, Sunshine 811 Executive Director

11:20 am What changes are proposed to Chapter 556, F.S. in the near future? Sunshine 811 wants your input!

11:45 am *Open Discussion – Closing Remarks*

noon *Lunch*

Register by February 10th

If you have difficulty using the register button, visit www.sunshine811.com
and click on the Damage Prevention Forum under Hot Topics.
Questions? brad.martin@sunshine811.com





(DBPR Update)
Continued from Page 7)

This year, the Department is also partnering with the Florida American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida) to conduct a student video contest for architecture students throughout the state. The contest, which offers cash prizes to the teams who produce the best videos about the unlicensed practice of architecture, seeks to engage the student community in an issue that impacts their profession. Information is available online at <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/studentPSAcontest>.

Last fiscal year, the Department received more than 1,100 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed construction, electrical and contractor activity; 174 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed cosmetology; 106 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed architecture activity; and 72 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed barber activity.

The Department is running similar educational campaigns to educate Floridians about the importance of hiring licensed real estate professionals and licensed certified public accountants. Last fiscal year, the Department received 1,376 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed real estate or unlicensed appraisal activity and 68 legally sufficient complaints about unlicensed certified public accounting activity. These industries have the highest number of unlicensed activity complaints out of the professions regulated by the Department.

Unlicensed activity occurs when an individual offers to perform or performs services that require a state license and the individual does not hold the required license. Florida law sets specific rules and guidelines for obtaining professional licensure, and the people who have met these requirements are held to professional standards. Consumers can verify professional licenses online at www.myfloridalicense.com.

Floridians can also help protect the jobs

of licensed professionals and the safety of consumers by notifying the Department of Business and Professional Regulation of any suspected unlicensed activity. Complaints can be emailed to ULA@dbpr.state.fl.us or reported by phone to (866) 532-1440.

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation's mission is to license efficiently and regulate fairly. The Department licenses and regulates more than one million businesses and professionals ranging from hotels and restaurants, real estate agents and accountants to veterinarians, contractors and cosmetologists. For more information, please visit www.MyFloridaLicense.com.

More information about DBPR is available online at www.myfloridalicense.com. Also, follow [@FloridaDBPR](https://twitter.com/FloridaDBPR) on Twitter or Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation on Facebook for updates about license cycles, events and other important news.

Help Wanted

Holland Pump is seeking a **Rentals & Sales Pump Consultant** for their **Tampa, Florida** office. Utilize individual technical, communication and product skills to solve customer fluid handling problems and increase company business through the development of Holland pumping systems and related pumping products, particularly as related to the rental of pumps in **sewer bypass applications**. The position also involves assisting other branches when expertise is required. Contacting and meeting with potential clients, tracking projects, designing and bidding dewatering systems. Analyzes, assesses, recommends and designs pumping systems. Execute job by deploying Holland resources and supervising logistics. Use judgment to supervise job on site from start to finish depending on location of job and other Holland resources available. Generate sales reports, bids, proposals and quotes. Be point man with customers for **after-hours emergency sewer bypass response**. Competitive Salary, Commission, Bonus and Benefits available. Please e-mail resume to Eugene Lant, eugene@hollandpump.com, or fax resume to 561.683.7247.





Sunshine 811 Damage Prevention Forum

"Making Florida the Safest Place to Dig"

Sponsored by:

Date Thursday, February 28, 2013
Time 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Where Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City
2117 East 7th Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33605
Cost FREE – Register Today – Space Limited to 80



-
- 11:00 am Registration
- 11:15 am *Welcome* – Kathy Thrash, Sunshine 811 & Florida Energy Pipeline Association
- 11:20 am *Introduction to FEPA*
Rob Wilson, Florida Energy Pipeline Association, Executive Director
Damage Prevention is a Shared Responsibility
- 11:30 am Khrysanne Kerr, Vice President of Communications & Program Development, Common Ground Alliance
- Noon *Making Florida the Safest Place to Dig* – Cheryl Ritter, Sunshine 811 Damage Prevention Manager
- 12:10 pm Lunch - **FREE**
- 12:30 pm *5 Steps to Safer Digging* – Video presentation
- 12:45 pm *Break*
- 12:55 pm *Door Prizes*
- IRTH One Call System* – Bill Heath, Sunshine 811 Technical Operations Manager
- 1:00 pm Do you know how Sunshine 811 manages more than 1 million ticket requests annually? Learn about the software that is the backbone of Sunshine 811 and about how utilities are mapped into the system.
- 1:15 pm *What is Positive Response and Why Should I Check it?* – Brian Dean, Sunshine 811
Positive Response tells you what to expect at the excavation site. It is essential to safe digging.
- 1:30 pm *The Case for New Legislation* – Mark Sweet, Sunshine 811 Executive Director
What changes are proposed to Chapter 556, F.S. in the near future? Sunshine 811 wants your input!
- 1:45 pm *Open Discussion*

Register by February 25th

If you have difficulty using the register button, visit www.sunshine811.com
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Questions? kathy.thrash@sunshine811.com



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UUCF to Hold Board and Committee Meetings in Tallahassee

The 2013 Legislative Session will begin on March 12. The Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) Board of Director's and Committee Meetings will be held in Tallahassee while the state legislature is in session. The date is Monday, April 1, 2013. As with every board meeting, UUCF members are invited to attend. However, this is a special invitation to all UUCF members to attend this "legislative session" Board of Director's Meeting.

The UUCF Executive and Convention Committee Meetings and Board of Director's Meeting

will be held on Monday, April 1, 2013 at the Governors Club located at 202 South Adams Street in Tallahassee. The Executive and Convention Committee Meetings will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, lunch will start at 12:00 noon and the Board of Director's Meeting and Legislative Briefing will be held from 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, April 2, 2013, attendees are encouraged to walk the halls of the Capitol and meet with their local representatives and senators. Attendees will be briefed on the issues to discuss with their legislators during the Legislative

Briefing on Monday, April 1, 2013.

UUCF has secured a block of rooms at the Doubletree by Hilton Tallahassee. The rate is \$129.00 single/double occupancy. Information, along with a Hotel Reservation Form, was e-mailed to all UUCF members. Please contact the hotel directly at (800) 222-8733. The room block will expire on Friday, March 8, 2013, so make your room reservation now. Tallahassee is busy this time of year.

Don't forget to make appointments with the senators and representatives from your district on Tuesday, April 2, 2013.

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811 Safety Day Rocks

3 reasons why attending 811 Safety Day can help build strong foundation for worker, job-site safety

Ninety-five percent of those who attended 811 Safety Day in 2011 felt safer on the job because of what they learned in the sessions and demonstrations. Do you feel safe on the job site? Do you want to feel safer? Then you belong at 811 Safety Day, March 14, 2013 in West Palm Beach, FL.

1. Short cuts should never trump safety

Cliff Meidl, two-time U.S. Olympian kayaker, and Eric Giguere are living, breathing testaments to what can happen when short cuts trump safety. Your day begins at 8 a.m. with the 811 Safety Day Summit featuring Giguere's message, "I was buried alive and survived."

It ends with free lunch and the harrowing account of the day Meidl jack-hammered into three electric cables and his exhaustive three-year rehabilitation.

2. Knowing the law can help save time, lives and money

Five 30-minute sessions provide specific information on a variety of, and often misunderstood topics in the Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act, Chapter 556, F.S. You'll also get a glimpse at the affect corrosion has on pipelines – and how dangerous digging can lead to corrosion. As an added benefit, you can earn one continuing education credit by attending the one-hour class "5 Steps to Safe Digging." The CEU is approved by the Construction Industry Licensing Board towards your contractor's

license or Florida Water and Pollution Control Operator's Association certificate.

3. See new technologies for safer digging near underground utilities.

More than 100 exhibitors and live demonstrations will feature the latest advances in safe digging equipment and technology. You'll learn how to properly shore a trench using a variety of shoring equipment. See how vacuum excavation easily exposes buried utilities. Or, witness a live burn with Dupont's™ Thermo-Man® to see how fire can affect you through flame-retardant clothing.

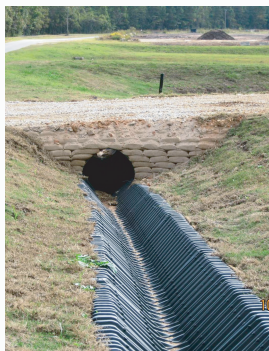
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(Continued on Page 16)



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UUCF District 3

Broward, Dade, Martin, Monroe, Palm Beach

UUCF At Large

Alachua, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor

Did you know that UUCF does not have an affiliated chapter in these counties? Did you know that membership with UUCF is only \$200 per year, per district?

For a list of What We Have Done For You, **please click here**. If you are interested in joining UUCF, **please click here** for a Membership Application.

Registered Contractor License Renewal Reminder

Just a reminder that the Registered Contractor licenses from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) are up for renewal on August 31, 2013. Current law requires licenseholders to obtain 14 hours of continuing education with at least one hour in workplace safety, one hour in workers' compensation, one hour in business practices, one hour in the advance building code module, one hour in laws and rules (Chapter 489) and one hour in wind mitigation (this requirement only affects general, residential, building, roofing and glass and glazing contractors).

Don't forget to notify the DBPR office of any address change. Section 489.124(2) gives sole responsibility to the licensee for notifying DBPR in writing of the licensee's current mailing address and phone number.

Failure to notify the department of a change of address shall constitute a violation of this section. In addition, if your address changes and you do not notify the department, you may not receive important mailings from the department such as your renewal notice.

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- Structure Type/Work Type
- Current Licenses (including issuing agency)
- Trade Associations, Memberships and Govt. Certifications
- LEED/BIM Certification
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- Links to Specs, BIM, CAD and other "Related Files"
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Denver, CO 80202
(303) 555-1212
Contact: Deborah DiBella
federico@unibros.com

Established: 1975
No. Employees: 12
Sector: Public and Private
Labor Affiliation: Nonunion
Lead Certification: Yes
BIM Certified: Yes

Image Gallery
Commercial Plumbing Jobs

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President's Message



Statistically speaking . . .

If you're left handed:
Over 2,500 left

handed people are killed per year, from using products made for right handed people.

If you're right handed:
The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

If you plan to live forever:
Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.

If you like eating corn on the cob:
One in 4 people over 60 has lost all their teeth so be thankful if you still



have yours.

If you're afraid to fly:
The average number of people in an airborne vehicle over the United States at any

given hour is 61,000.

If you've always wanted to catch a baseball from a Major League Baseball game:
The average life of a major league baseball is 7 pitches. I suggest you bring a glove.

If you like pigskins:
It takes about 3,000 cows to supply

the NFL with enough leather for a year's worth of footballs.

If you're not too bright:
45% of Americans don't know that the sun is a star.

If you want to work from home:
66% of home based businesses are owned by women.

If you like raisin hell:
75% of all raisins eaten by people in the U.S. are eaten at breakfast.

If you're thinking "Thank God It's Friday":
According to a study by the nation's largest auto insurer, most accidents

(Continued on Page 16)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
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| <p>OFFICE: (800) 346-5971 FAX: (561) 798-2113 MOBILE: (561) 722-6191</p> <p>JOHN RAKOCZY PRESIDENT</p>  <p>"PROFESSIONAL SERVICE WITH PRIDE AND INTEGRITY" St. Lic. #CU-C057091 www.rangeline.com</p> | <p>BRIAN MACNAMARA PRESIDENT</p>  <p>State Certified CU C048358 Contractor V 37621100012001</p> <p>P.O. Box 568912 Orlando, FL 32856 Phone: (407) 468-0557 FAX: (407) 895-1437</p> <p>*Wet Taps *Line Stops</p> | <p>xylem Let's Solve Water</p> <p>Frank Jones Branch Manager</p> <p>Xylem, Inc. 2152 Sprint Blvd., Apopka, FL 32703 Office 407.880.2900 Fax 407.880.2962 frank.jones@xylem.com</p>  <p>a xylem brand www.xylem.com</p> |





(811 Safety Day Rocks Continued from Page 13)

It doesn't matter what company you work for or what your job title is, if you want a safer work site, this event will help you get there. The 811 Safety Day is free, but register early at www.811safetyday.com to guarantee your spot. The 2011 event was attended by more than 500!

(President's Message Continued from Page 15)

occur between 3 and 6 p.m. on Friday.

If you twiddle your thumbs:

You are in the 8% of Americans that twiddle their thumbs. If you're doing it right now, get back to work.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wendorf
UUCF President

IRS Mileage Rate Increasing in 2013

The Internal Revenue (IRS) recently

announced the standard mileage rates for the use of a car or other vehicle for business purposes. For calendar year 2013, the rate will increase to 56.5 which is an increase of one penny over the rate for 2012.

The standard mileage rate set by the IRS is used by many businesses to reimburse employees for mileage travelled in their personal vehicles for business reasons. Businesses always have the option not to use this standard rate and instead calculate the actual costs of using a vehicle for business purposes and reimbursing their employees for that cost.

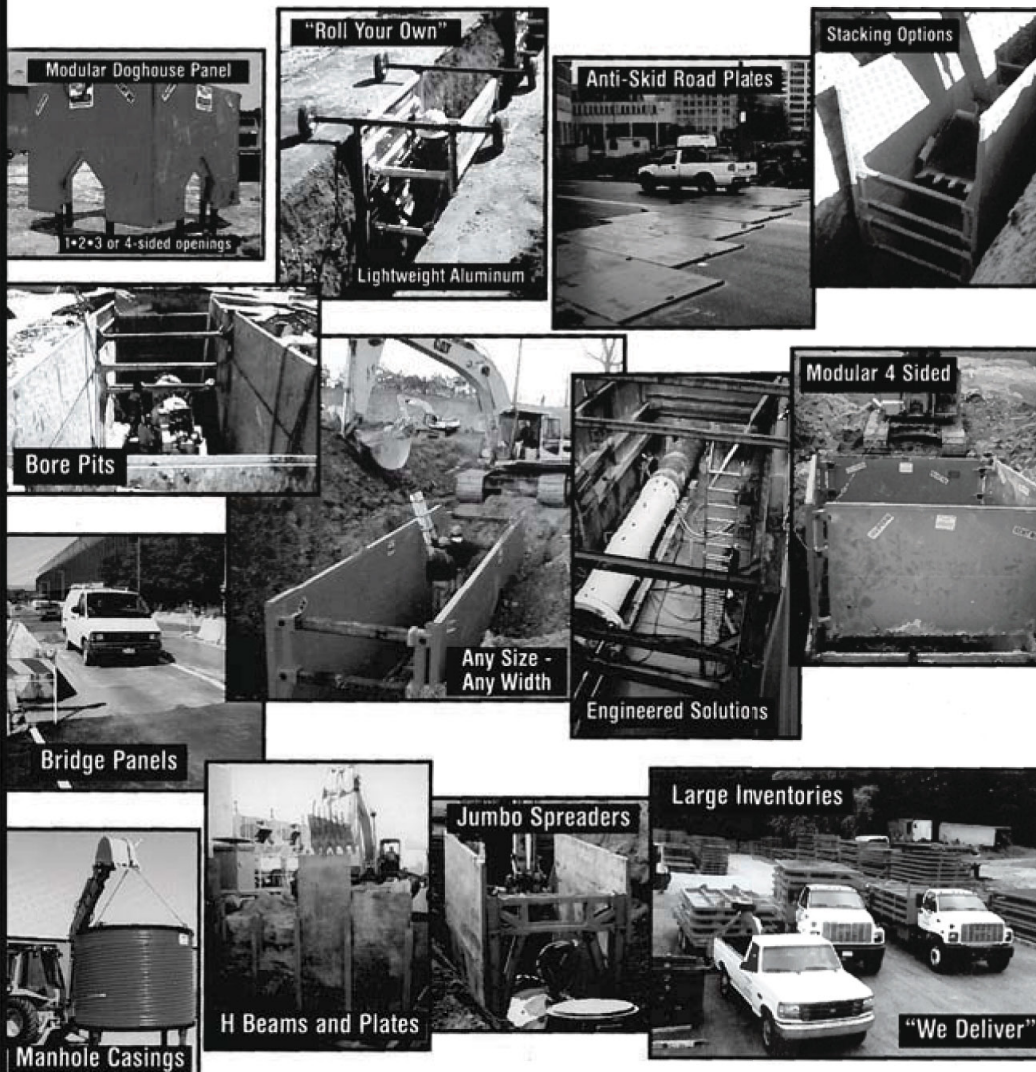
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Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes

The Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Workers' Compensation, is offering free classes regarding Florida's workers' compensation laws and workplace safety to business owners, licensed contractors and employers.

Workers' compensation topics covered include:

- Review of Key Statutory Definitions
- Contractor Responsibilities
- Exemptions
- Insurance Coverage Requirements
- Enforcement Provisions

Workplace safety topics presented by OSHA (U.S. Dept. of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration) include:

- Direct and Indirect Costs
- Inspections
- Florida Fatalities

The following is a list of class dates and times for future sessions:

February 5, 2013

Tampa
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
State of Office Building
1313 North Tampa Street, Suite 605
Tampa, FL 33603

February 6, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workers' Compensation
WEB Based class

February 7, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workplace Safety
WEB Based class

February 8, 2013

Lantana
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Gold Coast Schools
6216 South Congress Avenue
Lantana, FL 33462

February 21, 2013

Pensacola
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Division of Workers' Compensation
610 East Burgess Road
Pensacola, FL 32504

March 6, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workers' Compensation
WEB Based class

March 7, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workplace Safety
WEB Based class

March 12, 2013

Orlando
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
State Office Building
Hurston Complex, 400 West
Robinson Street, South
Tower, Conference Room N-101
Orlando, FL 32801

March 19, 2013

Miramar/Pembroke Pines
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Miramar Pembroke Pines Regional
Chamber of Commerce

March 21, 2013

Tallahassee
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Hartman Building
2012 Capital Circle S.E., Room 102
Tallahassee, FL 32399

April 10, 2013

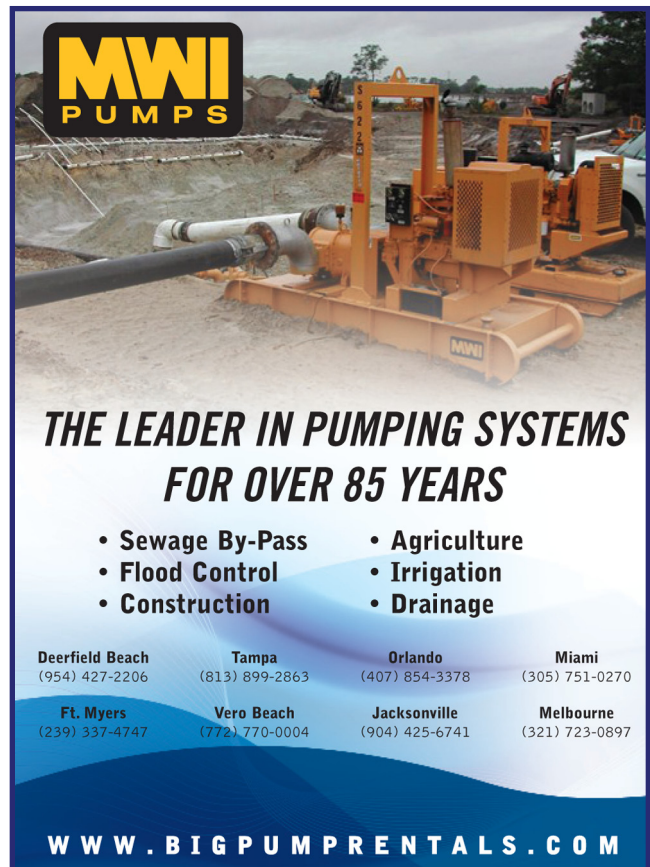
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workers' Compensation
WEB Based class

April 11, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workplace Safety
WEB Based class

May 8, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST
Workers' Compensation
WEB Based class



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(Continued on Page 20)



Calendar of Events

UUCF

Feb. 1 Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando
Mar. 1-2 UUCF/ASJMSF Annual Bass Fishing
Tournament, Lake Toho, Kissimmee
Mar. (TBA)..... Board of Director's Meeting, Tallahassee
June 7..... Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando
July 25..... Board of Director's Meeting,
Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton
July 25-28 Annual Convention,
Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton
Nov. 1..... Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

NUCA of North Florida

Feb. 5 Executive Committee Meeting
Mar. 12 Executive Committee Meeting
Mar. 18 Golf Tournament
Mar. 28 General Membership Meeting
Apr. 9 Executive Committee Meeting
May 14 Executive Committee Meeting
May 23 Jacksonville Suns Baseball
June 11..... Executive Committee Meeting
July 9 Executive Committee Meeting
July 18..... General Membership Meeting
Aug. 13..... Executive Committee Meeting
Sept. 10 Executive Committee Meeting
Sept. 19 General Membership Meeting
Sept. (TBA)..... Clay Shoot, WW Sporting Clay
Oct. 8 Executive Committee Meeting
Oct. (TBA)..... Fishing Tournament
Nov. 5..... Executive Committee Meeting
Nov. 21..... Election of Officers
Dec. 10..... Executive Committee Meeting
Dec. (TBA)..... Holiday Party

NUCA of Northwest Florida

Feb. 1 Sunshine 811 Excavator Luncheon
Mar. 15 Clay Shoot
Apr. (TBA)..... Confined Space Entry Program
June 15..... In Shore Fishing Tournament
Sept. (TBA)..... General Membership Meeting
Oct. 26 Equipment Rodeo, Equestrian Center
Nov. 16..... Annual Meeting, Museum of Commerce

NUCA of Southwest Florida

Feb. 21 .Board of Directors/General Membership Meetings
Mar. 21 Board of Director's Meeting
Apr. 18 .Board of Directors/General Membership Meetings
May 4 Golf Tournament
May 16 Board of Director's Meeting
June 20..... Board of Directors/General Membership
Meetings/Scholarship Awards
July 18..... Board of Director's Meeting
Aug. 15.Board of Directors/General Membership Meetings
Sept. 20-21 Fishing Tournament
Sept. 26 Board of Director's Meeting
Oct. 17 .Board of Directors/General Membership Meetings
Nov. 21..... Board of Director's Meeting

Dec. 7 Holiday Party & Installation of Officers

National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)

Feb. 10-14..... Convention,
Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel, Phoenix, AZ
Oct. 2-6..... Fall Board of Directors and Leadership
Meeting, El Conquistador in Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

Sunshine 811 Meetings

Feb. 21-22... Committee and Board of Director's Meetings
Mar. 12-14 CGA Excavation Safety Conference
& Expo, West Palm Beach
Mar. 14 811 Safety Day, West Palm Beach

Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB) Meetings

Feb. 13-15..... Embassy Suites Orlando-North,
Altamonte Springs
Mar. 13-15 TBA
Apr. 10-12..... Mission Inn Resort & Club,
Howey-in-the-Hills
May 8-10 Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
June 12-14 Embassy Suites - Fort Lauderdale
July 10-12 TBA
Aug. 14-16 The Ritz-Carlton Sarasota
Sept. 11-13 TBA
Oct. 9-11..... TBA
Nov. 13-15 TBA

(Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes

Continued from Page 19)

May 9, 2013

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST
Workplace Safety
WEB Based class

June 5, 2013

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST
Workers' Compensation
WEB Based class

June 6, 2013

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST
Workplace Safety
WEB Based class

The Division of Workers' Compensation is an authorized provider (Provider Number: 0004354) for continuing education purposes through the CILB. Course Number: 0010118 - one hour satisfies the workers' compensation requirement and Course Number: 0010630 - one hour satisfies the workplace safety requirement.

The form is available on the Division's website at www.myfloridacfo.com/WC. For additional information, e-mail bocseminars@MyFloridaCFO.com, or call (813) 221-6518.





Unemployment Tax Update

The State of Florida pays reemployment assistance benefits (formerly known as “unemployment compensation benefits”) to qualified claimants using monies from the UC Trust Fund, which is funded by the reemployment tax (formerly called “unemployment tax”) paid by Florida employers.

Florida law is designed to adjust the reemployment tax rates each year to maintain the balance in the Trust Fund. In August 2009, the Trust Fund became insolvent, and the balance fell to zero. When the amount in the Trust Fund falls below a specific amount set by law, it triggers an automatic increase in tax rates to recoup the funds necessary to reach required funding levels. This is the reason Florida employers have been paying increased reemployment (unemployment) taxes the last several years.

In 2012, the Florida Legislature made two changes that affect the amount of reemployment tax businesses will have to pay in 2013. The Legislature reduced the increase in tax rates by extending the time period to replenish the Trust Fund from three years to five years. The Legislature also reduced the taxable wage base to \$8,000 effective January 1, 2012 through 2014. The wage base is the amount of each employee’s wages that is subject to reemployment tax.

Because of these two changes, most employers will see a decrease in their Florida reemployment taxes for 2013. The minimum tax rate will be \$81.60 per employee (down \$40 from last year), while the maximum rate will stay the same at \$432 per employee.

Reemployment tax rates increase for those employers that have benefit charges (i.e., former employees who have received benefits in the last year). Generally, the more benefits paid, the higher the tax rate. Rates for employers can increase up to the maximum rate of 5.4% per year. When an employer’s tax rate has reached 5.4%, any additional benefit charges that are not recouped by the 5.4% tax rate are spread across all employers.

You should have already received your reemployment tax rate notice from the Florida Department of Revenue regarding your tax rate for 2013. This tax rate will be effective for wages paid on or after January 1, 2013, and your first reemployment tax rate for the first quarter of 2013 will be due by April 30, 2013.

Interest Payments: For the last two years, Florida employers have had to make once a year payments to the Florida Department of Revenue to pay their share of

Sunshine 811 Holiday Calendar

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Martin Luther King Day | 01/21/13 |
| Memorial Day | 05/27/13 |
| Independence Day | 07/04/13 |
| Labor Day | 09/02/13 |
| Thanksgiving Day | 11/28/13 |
| Day after Thanksgiving Day | 11/29/13 |
| Christmas Eve | 12/24/13 |
| Christmas Day | 12/25/13 |

Sunshine 811’s business hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Please keep the above dates in mind when calling for locates two business days prior. The law now requires two full business days prior to digging.**



2013 FDOT Letting Date

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| February 27 | March 27 |
| April 24 | May 22 |
| June 19 | July 31 |
| August 28 | September 25 |
| October 30 | December 4 |

2014 FDOT Letting Date

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| January 29 | February 26 |
| March 26 | April 30 |
| May 21 | June 18 |

(Continued on Page 23)





Chapter News

NUCA of North Florida

NUCA of North Florida 2013 Officers and Directors were installed at our meeting on January 17 at Maggiano's. NUCA Chairman Ryan Schmitt was on hand to perform the installation. Mike Woodall, John Woody, Inc., was installed as President. Our 2012 President Kim Bryan recognized the 2012 monthly sponsors for their support during the year. The following companies were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation as well as a plate for their sponsorship plaques: A. J. Johns, Inc., Beard Equipment Company, Ellis & Associates, Professional Shoring & Supply, Layne Heavy Civil, Inc., Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, United Rentals Trench Safety and Standard Precast. Also recognized at this event were the 2012 Committee chairs. Each individual received a Certificate of

Appreciation. Committee Chairs: Membership, Kim Bryan; Education, Mike Gruber; Fishing, Ed Porter; Golf, Mike Woodall and Jon Woodall; Scholarship, Ted Turnbeaugh; Clay Shoot, John Kirkland; and Legislative, Tony Zebouni. Kim presented Rick Erickson, Beard Equipment Company, with the *Outstanding Individual Contributor* in recognition of his exceptional participation in the membership drive and overall contribution to the association. Donnie Wynn, Florida Roads, received the *Outstanding Board Member Award*, in recognition of his excellent attendance and overall contribution to the Board of Directors; serving as Chairman of the Safety Director's Forum and outstanding Committee participation.

The NUCA of North Florida Annual

Golf Tournament has been set for Monday, March 26 at St. John's Golf & Country Club. Jon Woodall, John Woody, Inc., is this year's golf chairman. Sponsorships are available beginning at \$260 for tee/green sponsors to \$600 Vendor Showcases. The cost for players is \$125. Contact the NUCA of North Florida office at (904) 296-1230 to register or for additional information.

Thank you to our 2013 monthly sponsors: **Gold Sponsors:** Beard Equipment Company and United Rentals Trench Safety. **Silver sponsors:** Layne Heavy Civil, Professional Shoring & Supply and Standard Precast, Inc. **Bronze Sponsors:** A. J. Johns, Inc., Ellis & Associates and Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors.

The NUCA Convention is fast



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| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Full page (inside front or back cover) (7" w x 9 3/4" h)..... | \$275.00 net/month |
| Full page (7" w x 9 3/4" h)..... | \$225.00 net/month |
| Half page (back cover) (7" w x 4 3/4" h)..... | \$175.00 net/month |
| Half page (7" w x 4 3/4" h)..... | \$125.00 net/month |
| Quarter page (3 3/8" w x 4 9/16" h)..... | \$75.00 net/month |
| Business Card (3 1/2" w x 2" h)..... | \$60.00 net/month |
| Business Card (reduced 75%) – 12 month..... | \$125.00 net/year |
| Business Card (reduced 75%) – 6 months..... | \$85.00 net/six months |

Advertisements will be printed in color or black and white and must be submitted as a .pdf document. All .pdf documents can be sent via e-mail to julie@uucf.com. When sending as a .pdf, the document, please save to at least a 300 dpi with imbedded fonts. All advertisements must be submitted by the first day of the month in order to be placed in that month's issue.

To place an advertisement in the Ditchmen, please contact the UUCF office at the following:

UUCF
231 West Bay Avenue
Longwood, FL 32750-4125
Phone: (407) 830-1880 – FAX: (407) 260-1582





approaching. Hope to see everyone in Phoenix February 10-14!

NUCA of Southwest Florida

Topic for our Membership Meeting on January 17 was the Utilities Expansion Project for the City of Cape Coral. Guest speakers were Danny Nelson, Vice President, and Fred Mittl, Sr. Project Manager, of Tetra Tech Engineering and Consulting Services; and Jeff Pearson, Utilities Director, and Paul Clinghan, U.E.P. Project Manager, for the City of Cape Coral.

The Cape Coral City Council voted to restart the U.E.P. on February 15, 2012. Council approved using the Design-Bid-Build model. Southwest 6/7 areas are in the process of being evaluated and designed, and then move on to future area North 2 and 1, expected project completion for these areas is 2019.

Jeff Pearson holds several water/wastewater certifications and has over 22 years of utilities management and

operations experience in municipal and county environments. Paul Clinghan began work on the project December 17, 2012. He brings with him an extensive 25 year background of engineering experience managing design, bidding and construction of water and wastewater projects.

Tetra Tech Engineering is contracted with the City of Cape Coral to consult and oversee the project. Danny Nelson and his team will assist with construction management and inspection services related to the project area.

Our next membership meeting is March 21, 2013 at The Holiday Inn Airport – Town Center.

(Unemployment Tax Update Continued from Page 21)

the interest due on the outstanding loans to the federal government. These payments were due in June.

Good news: the state is estimating that there will be no interest payment due in 2013 because the state will have fully paid back the loans by May 2013.

Federal Unemployment Tax:

Federal Unemployment Tax (FUTA) is figured quarterly, but the FUTA tax return is filed only once a year.

Because Florida still has outstanding loans from the federal government that we haven't paid back, Florida employers will incur a 0.6% reduction in the amount of credit they can take against 2013 Annual Federal Unemployment Tax due January 2013. The credit against federal unemployment tax will decrease 5.1% to 4.8% effective January 1.

This means you may have to pay more FUTA tax when you file your Form 940 for 2012. Check the box on line 2 of the Form 940 and fill out Schedule A (Form 940) to determine how much additional tax you owe due to the credit reduction.



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West Palm Beach, Florida
More info: 866-279-7755

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- ☐ Upper Management
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- ☐ Middle Management
(Supervisor, Specialist, Coordinator, Foreman, Inspector)
- ☐ Field Operations
(Technician, Leader, Operator, Locator, Line Worker, Laborer)

INDUSTRY DESIGNATION (Select one)

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- ☐ Contract Locating
- ☐ Contractor
- ☐ Electric/Power
- ☐ Engineering Firm
- ☐ Gas & Oil
- ☐ Insurance
- ☐ Landscape/Fence
- ☐ Legal
- ☐ Manufacture/Supplier
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- ☐ Regulatory/Government
- ☐ Subsurface Utility Engineer
- ☐ Survey
- ☐ Telecommunications
- ☐ Water & Sewer
- ☐ Other _____

If you are attending conference sessions, which track is of the most interest to you? (You are not required to follow one track exclusively)

- ☐ CGA Conference Sessions
- ☐ International Locate Summit
- ☐ Trenchless Technology

Including this year, how many years have you attended this event?

- ☐ 1 year
- ☐ 2 years
- ☐ 3 or more years

Are you a CGA member?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like more information about CGA?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you hear about the CGA 811 Conference & Expo?

- ☐ Direct Mail Advertising
- ☐ Email Advertising
- ☐ Magazine Advertising
- ☐ Industry Meeting
- ☐ Word of Mouth
- ☐ CGA (Common Ground Alliance)
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Don't Remember

| CONFERENCE & EXPO REGISTRATION OPTIONS | BEFORE DEC 21, 2012 | | AFTER DEC 21, 2012 | | AMOUNT DUE |
|---|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------|
| Select one | CGA Member | Non-member | CGA Member | Non-member | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Night Hotel + Conference & Expo Monday-Thursday | \$1,550 | \$1,650 | \$1,600 | \$1,700 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Night Hotel + Conference & Expo Monday-Wednesday | \$1,335 | \$1,435 | \$1,385 | \$1,485 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Night Hotel + Conference & Expo Tuesday-Wednesday | \$1,115 | \$1,215 | \$1,165 | \$1,265 | |
| SELECT ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> Hyatt Place West Palm Beach <input type="checkbox"/> Embassy Suites West Palm Beach | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conference & Expo | \$675 | \$775 | \$725 | \$825 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expo Only | \$50 | \$50 | \$50 | \$50 | |

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

NOTE: Workshop registration is separate from Conference registration and requires an additional cost.

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Damage Investigation Workshop Tuesday, March 12, 8:00 am-2:30 pm | \$255 | \$305 | \$305 | \$355 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subsurface Utility Locating & Marking Tuesday, March 12, 9:00 am-5:00 pm | \$370 | \$370 | \$395 | \$395 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Locator Workshop Wednesday, March 13, 12:30 am-4:00 pm | \$85 | \$95 | \$95 | \$105 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Locator Workshop Thursday, March 14, 8:30 am-12:00 pm | \$85 | \$95 | \$95 | \$105 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Workshop Thursday, March 14, 8:30 am-5:00 pm | \$370 | \$370 | \$395 | \$395 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subsurface Utility Engineering-20 Years of (R)Evolution Thursday, March 14, 1:00 pm-4:30 pm | \$195 | \$195 | \$195 | \$195 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Penetrating Radar Tuesday, March 12, 8:00 am-2:30 pm | \$255 | \$305 | \$305 | \$355 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking Charge of Your Health Tuesday, March 12, 8:00 am-2:30 pm | \$295 | \$295 | \$295 | \$295 | |

SPECIAL EVENT REGISTRATION

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lady Windridge Yacht Cruise (Includes dinner and open bar) Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 pm-10:00 pm | \$110 (Per person) | X | _____ (Quantity) | |
|--|-----------------------|---|---------------------|--|

REGISTRATION CODE: P099

TOTAL DUE:

PAYMENT OPTIONS: ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX

Card Number: _____ Exp: _____ Security Code: _____

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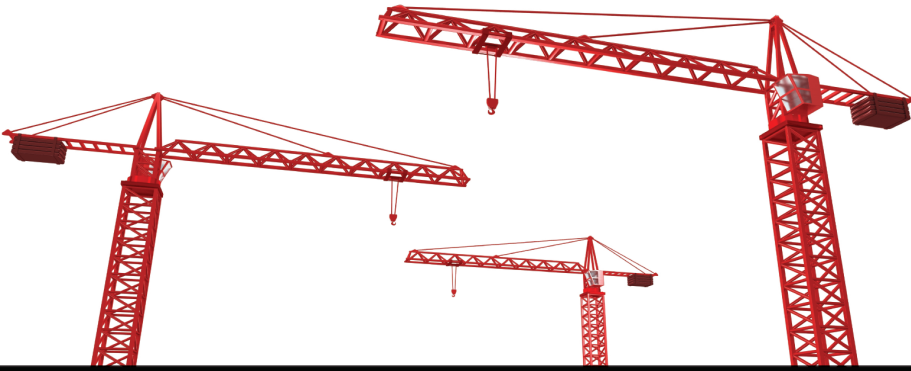
CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations prior to January 24, 2013 are refundable less a 20% administrative fee. Cancellations after January 24, 2013 are not refundable.

Fax completed form to 952.703.7022, scan and email to liz@emailir.com,
or mail to 10740 Lyndale Avenue S, Suite 15W, Bloomington, MN 55420

**Register before
December 21 and SAVE!**

NOTE: Photographs and video are taken at the CGA 811 Excavation Safety Conference & Expo. By registering for this event, you agree to allow Infrastructure Resources, LLC to use your image in related publications, promotions or on its websites.





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2

Safety Matters

Get your damage prevention questions answered in Safety Matters. It's Sunshine 811's one-hour online course. You get real life examples and relevant content to help you make good decisions before putting your shovel in the ground.*

3

Internet Ticket Entry

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* For more details or to download an ITE application visit www.Sunshine811.com.

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