

**Eastern Virginia Damage Prevention Group
Area 1
March 26, 2009**

Persons in Attendance:

Tommy Wellington, One Vision	Jim Tash, VNG
E. Jefferson, Team EAS	Steven Rilee, ESI
Cindy Chappell, VNG	Ann Templeman, VNG
Robert Hughes, Dom. VA Power	Dan Losh, Phoenix Loss Control
Bill Shelly, Phoenix Loss Control	Joe Pinner, Town of Smithfield
Craig Canady, C3 Corp.	Gene Midkiff, Cable Associates
John Shearer, JNET	Monty Crawford, S & N
Kevin Flaherty, One Vision	David Gatling, VNG
James hinkle, Verizon	Stephen Ball, C.U.S.
James Bennett, SCC	Vian Irvine, Cox
Charlie Hardie, Callcom Utility	Channing Guvernator, VUPS
Dave Thompson, Henderson	Scott Smith, Verizon
Raoul Sheridan, Verizon	Jerome Belin Jr., Verizon
Darnell Whitfield, Cox	Haile Hampton, HRSD
Bettie Cahoon, City of Chesapeake	

The Area 1 meeting of the Eastern Virginia Damage Prevention group was held on March 26, 2009, and was graciously hosted by Virginia Natural Gas.

After attendee introductions, all were asked to make sure phone numbers are exchanged between excavators, locators and facility owners.

Channing Guvernator with VUPS updated the group on the E-911 pilot program currently underway in the Roanoke area. It is a public service which can be used in cases of Amber alerts, as well as, emergency situations such as fires, accidents, etc.

Parcel information will be available next week for web ticket users. This feature should greatly enhance the ability to more clearly define work areas.

There was discussion on the importance of white lining and the benefits to all by doing so. There has been an ongoing pilot for electronic white lining, but it is of little use if locators do not have the equipment to see the information.

The Town of Smithfield advised the group of their efforts to create GIS maps of all of their facilities.

James Bennett with the SCC shared the newest CARE video with the group and discussed damage prevention education throughout the state.

Questions from the group:

Is an excavator required to have a paper copy of the ticket on site? No, the excavator is required to provide the ticket number when requested. It is a good practice to provide a copy of not only the ticket, but the responses to those who are doing the work so that they will know what to look for when they arrive at the site.

How does the State define Code 11 and does it exempt the locator from having to respond to a three hour notice? (Marked, abandoned utility lines may be in the area) The locator must respond to all three hour notices, but will probably refer to the facility owner to determine which is active and which is abandoned.

The annual Damage Prevention Conference will be held April 21-23 in Virginia Beach. Attendance is encouraged.

There will be no April meeting for the Eastern Virginia Group. The next meeting will be held on May 12, 2009 in Area 3, at Northern Neck Electric Cooperative in Warsaw.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Cahoon, Secretary