



USA North 811 Updates

August 24-25, 2026

Developed and presented by:

- USA North 811 – James Wingate, Executive Director

Outreach Updates

USA North hosted its 2nd annual golf tournament, The 811 Classic, at the Tilden Park Golf Club in Berkeley, CA on May 29th. Excavators, utility operators, locators, and industry stakeholders competed on the course for the 811 Classic Cup. It was a great day of competition and networking among industry peers. Congratulations to CSI Construction for finishing 1st place in the tournament. 128 golfers participated in this event.



Emerging Leaders Forum

Where We Stand Today: Recent Damage Prevention Progress & Momentum

Review of recent industry performance, key safety metrics, and damage trends. Examination of progress toward the “50 in 5” challenge and other national/regional/local initiatives. Assessment of current momentum, notable achievements, and the critical gaps that remain.

The 811 Process: Current Tech & Procedure Pain Points

In-depth exploration of systemic challenges across the full 811 workflow, including ticket creation, notification, response, locating, and field marking. Identification of gaps in technology, procedures, legislation, and enforcement. Facilitated group discussion on the most significant shortcomings and their impact on safety and efficiency.

Forging the Future: Innovation Ideas

Collaborative brainstorming of bold, transformative ideas to modernize 811 and strengthen the broader damage prevention ecosystem. Discussion of innovative solutions in technology, processes, policies, procedures, and stakeholder coordination. Open exploration of both opportunities and potential barriers to implementation.



Emerging Leaders Forum meeting at USAN office in Concord, CA, May 28, 2026

Turning Vision in Action: Priorities and Commitments

Prioritization of the most promising ideas and strategic directions generated during the forum. Development of the how to and next steps from emerging leaders. Closing reflections, key takeaways, and a collective call to action to drive meaningful change.

In-person Outreach to Member Operators

Lunch & Learn meetings

Conducted by USAN's Member Services team. Review of electronic positive response (EPR) system, including correct response code usage and on-time performance tracking. First L&L was held at USAN's office in Concord, CA; second hosted by City of San Jose.

USAN conference room sharing

We are now allowing USAN's conference room to be used by industry groups at no cost. So far it has been used for multiple locator training sessions, a regional meeting of contract locator area supervisors, a large utility with team members based in regional offices in several counties, and others. This allows USAN to be a hub for damage prevention conversations and gives our staff a chance to present to these groups.



Lunch & Learn meeting for operators in San Jose area July 21, 2026, at City of San Jose offices