ANNUAL REPOR GODALE CONTRACTOR GODALE CONTRACTOR

JANUARY 1, 2024 - DECEMBER 31, 2024

Greetings from Gopher State One Call!

I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Kelly Connolly, and I took on the role of Chief Operations Officer for GSOC in August of last year, succeeding Barb Cederberg. On behalf of myself and the GSOC Board of Directors, we wish Barb congratulations on her retirement!

Last year was one for the books for GSOC. Ticket volume was up nearly 5 percent to 913,157 in 2024, no doubt due to last year's mild winter. These volumes were up significantly from January through April, a little down over May and June, and resumed a pace for the rest of the year on par with 2023. The percentage of tickets filed online via the ITIC increased again this year, climbing to 85.5 percent, a 0.5 percent increase over 2023. Thanks to all the online ticket submitters for helping GSOC to run more efficiently! It takes less resources on average to process an online ticket than to process a called in ticket.

Last year, we saw several major changes to Minnesota Statute 216D, including:

- Wait times now begin at 12:01 a.m. the day after the ticket request is filed.
- Meet tickets are required for projects 1 mile or more in length.
 Facility operators must provide a combination of stakes, flags, or whiskers to complement paint markings.
- White marking the area of excavation is now required with no exceptions. The state also took a step toward allowing digital white lining, if the information is the same as a physical mark, beginning in January 2026.
- · Activities must begin before the expiration of the ticket.
- Preliminary design and pre-construction meetings must include the project scope and timeline, and facility operators must attend. Affected contractors must also attend pre-construction meetings. The utility quality level definition was updated to reflect current standards.
- Starting in 2026, facility operators with 10,000 or more customers must use geospatial location information (or equivalent technology) to develop as-built drawings of newly installed or newly abandoned facilities if exposed in the excavation area. For operators with fewer than 10,000 customers in 2025, implementation begins in 2027.
- Facility operators must report quarterly to the <u>Minnesota</u> <u>Office of Pipeline Safety</u>.

For more information on these 216D changes, please visit www.gopherstateonecall.org.

In 2024, we continued our work to advance technology and innovations in the industry and connect them to the one call system. More than 100 municipalities participated in the <u>GPSenabled locator pilot project</u>, providing much-needed GIS technology for small towns across the state. In addition, GSOC will see the fruition of the <u>underground mapping project</u> with the implementation in 2025 of FuzionView through the ITIC system, allowing customers to view up-to-date data on the location of underground facilities from participating operators.

This year, our work continues to provide the latest information and education to Minnesotans on damage prevention and safety. Our team will be out and about across the state this Spring presenting at damage prevention meetings and working to continuously improve the system to ensure Minnesota is connected for safe digging. Public awareness efforts continued throughout the state by representing GSOC at numerous events like the Minneapolis Home + Garden Show, Northern Green, Farm Fest, and the Minnesota State Fair. GSOC invested in print, radio, and digital media advertising, including the Star Tribune, FOX 9, KARE 11, Linder Farm Network, as well as with the Saint Paul Saints and the Minnesota Twins, Timberwolves, and Vikings.

GSOC also supported the great events organized by the Minnesota Common Ground Alliance, including the Locate Rodeo, 811 5K Run/Walk, and the Minnesota Utility Contractors Association's Day of the Dozers. Thank you to the volunteers who supported these efforts.

As always, we appreciate your attention to damage prevention and the safety of Minnesota communities.

Please reach out to me with any comments on how GSOC can make the notification process better serve you.

Have a safe year! Best regards,



Kelly Connolly

Chief Operations Officer 651-681-7307 kelly.connolly@gopherstateonecall.org

PURPOSE AND VALUES

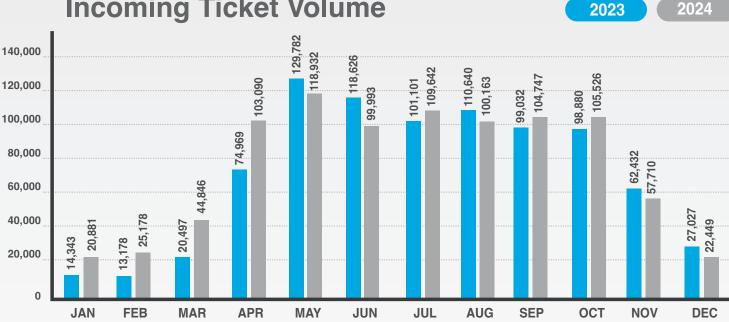
GSOC has developed the following Purpose and Values that describe all that we do to serve the Minnesota underground safety stakeholders.



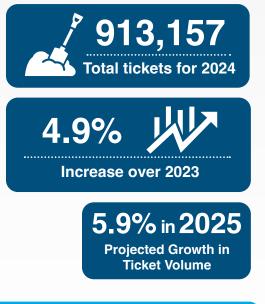
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2024 BY THE NUMBERS





Electronic Ticket Requests via the Internet	85.5%
Normal Tickets	802,936
Emergency Tickets	14,595
Boundary Survey Tickets	6,996
Meet Tickets	21,582
Owner Inquiry	275
Non-excavation Tickets	10,571
Engineering/Pre-con Meet	273
Update to Refresh Marks or Extend Life	55,708
Extended Start Time	221
Homeowner Tickets (Included in Normal Ticket Count)	77,934
7-County Metro	47.16%
Greater MN	52.84%



Homeowner-submitted Tickets

of Total Tickets

77,934 or 8.53% **Total Tickets**



47.16% Submitted from Seven-county Metro 52.84% Submitted from Greater MN

Web-submitted Tickets

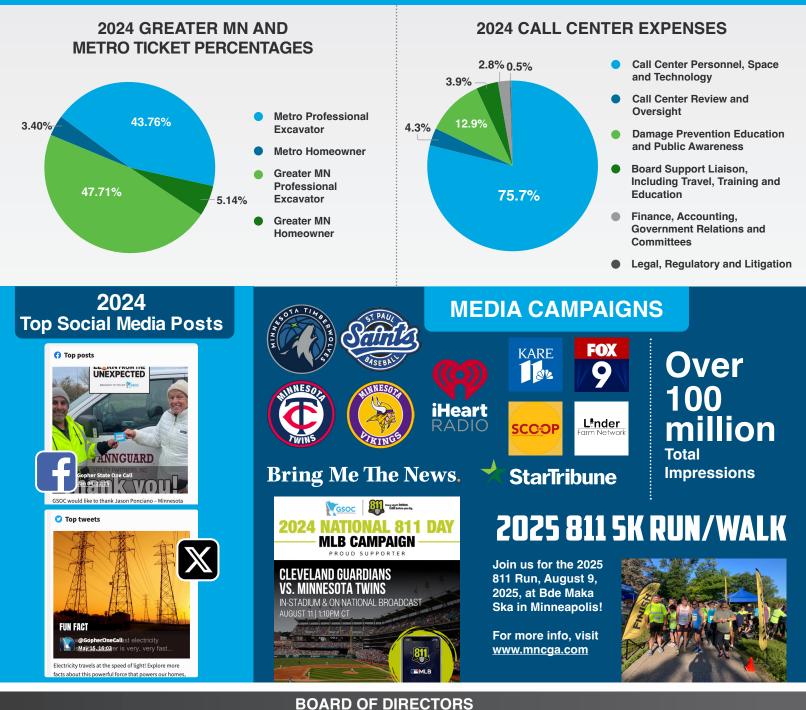




51%

Submitted Online

GSOC FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Keith Novy CHAIR/PRESIDENT Providing perspective from the Natural Gas Distribution Industry

Ward Westphal VICE CHAIR Providing perspective from the Excavation Industry

Joe Thill SECRETARY

Dave Hunstad CHAIR EMERITUS Providing perspective from Municipalities Providing Utility Services

Patrick Warden TREASURER Providing perspective from the Landscaping Industry

Brian Connolly ASSISTANT TREASURER Providing perspective from the Engineering Industry and from Water and Sewer Utilities

Daniel Krier STATE FIRE MARSHAL Director, Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety

Kris Anderson Providing perspective from the **Telecommunications Industry**

Tom Hoffman Providing perspective from the Rural **Electric Providers**

Phil Lesnar Providing perspective from the Excavation Industry

Jason Ponciano VANNGUARD UTILITY PARTNERS Providing perspective from the Locate Industry Greater Minnesota

Sam Richert XCEL ENERGY Providing perspective from the Energy

Distribution Industry Mark Sellin

SELLIN BROTHERS, INC. Providing perspective from Excavation Industry Greater Minnesota

Ben Wallace USIC Providing perspective from the Locate Industry

WHAT'S IN 2025 STORE FOR 2025

GROWTH

GSOC is forecasting a 5.9 % growth in incoming ticket volume for 2025. While incoming ticket volume is expected to decline in the

early months of 2025 due to expected increases in inflation, as well as expected interest rate hike, One Call Notification activity is expected to increase in mid-2025 as economic activity picks up steam.

5.9%





2025 Projected Growth

in Ticket Volume

NEW 216D MEET TICKET REQUIREMENTS

As of August 1, 2024, a Meet Ticket is required for any project that is 1 mile or more in length. This includes any portions of a project that are connected, the combination of which **meets or exceeds** that 1-mile requirement. This requirement is intended to alleviate the stress on facility operators and locators to avoid multiple tickets and visits for one project.

The Meet Ticket requires a meeting to take place on site to discuss proposed excavation, schedule locates and share information. The meeting must take place at least 48 hours after the request, the affected facility operator must attend, reschedule, or reach a mutual agreement that the Meet is not required. Excavation start time must be **at least** 48 hours after the meeting and both periods exclude weekends and holidays.

An excavator and facility operator must submit documentation for each on-site Meet (or agreement that a Meet is not required) with GSOC through the ticket system. Visit <u>www.gopherstateonecall.</u> org for more information.

MNOPS REPORTING DATA AVAILABLE IN ITIC

Minnesota facility operators receiving 5,000 notifications or more during the previous year must now provide a report to the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety (MNOPS) each quarter. This report must include the number of notification requests by type, the percentages of notifications marked on-time as well as the number of utility damages that occurred by cause. Registered facility operators can access some of this information through GSOC. For more information, visit <u>www.gopherstateonecall.org</u>.

> Chief Operations Officer **Kelly Connolly** 651-681-7307 kelly.connolly@gopherstateonecall.org

UTILIZE MY TICKET ANALYTICS

GSOC provided users with the ability to view high-level ticket data analytics. Users are able to view historical ticket data by county, type of ticket, and date range. Facility operators and excavators are able to view and analyze their specific ticket data by start date and time on the ticket for the data submitted to GSOC Positive Response. This is a critical tool in analyzing data and enhancing damage prevention efforts throughout the state. For more information, visit <u>www.gopherstateonecall.org</u>.

General Manager **Tammy Gardner** 651-681-5700 tammy.gardner@gopherstateonecall.org