City, NW Natural remind citizens of National Safe Digging Month

National Safe Digging Month, the City of Cottage Grove and NW Natural want to remind residents, contractors, and landscapers to call 811 before digging.

If residents are planning a spring planting or an outdoor project that involves digging, call 811 at least two business days ahead to have underground utility lines located.

It's free; and it's the *law*. It can also prevent service interruption, thousands of dollars in damag-

In recognition of April's es and the risk of injuries. "Whether you're а homeowner building a fence, a real estate agent posting a for-sale sign, or a contractor doing excavation, you must call 811 or use the free NW Natural safety app to have utility depth or familiarity with lines located," said Jaim- the property, make a reie Lemke, NW Natural's damage prevention supervisor.

> The most cause nationwide of a natural gas pipeline damage is when someone accidentally digs into the pipe.

underground utility line fessional locator visits the line is accidently hit, re- ing Centers for Disease can interrupt service to entire neighborhoods and lead to serious injuries, fines and costly repairs.

Here are some planning guidelines:

• Regardless of digging quest at least two business days before a planned dig

• Call 811 or use the free common NW Natural Safety App

Oregon Utility Notification Center notifies local utility companies of the Accidentally hitting an intent to dig. Then a pro-

of underground utility lines. The OUNC says the contractors who come out to mark buried lines will precautions.

• Confirm with 811 that ral gas line. all lines have been marked

• Consider moving the project location if it's near utility line markings

• If working with a con-• When calling 811, the tractor, confirm a call to 811 has been made. Don't allow work to begin if lines aren't marked.

site to mark the location port it immediately by calling 911 or NW Natural's 24-hour emergency line at 800-882-3377.

No damage is too small follow COVID-19 safety to report; even a small dent could weaken a natu-

> Always remember: Smell. Go. Let us know.

If you smell natural gas, leave the area immediately, and then call us at 800-882-3377 and NW Natural will come over to check things out.

During COVID-19, NW • If while digging a gas Natural's crews are follow-

Control (CDC) and state health guidelines regarding face coverings, social distancing, and sanitizing protocols.

For more information, visit www.nwnatural.com/ safety/call-before-you-dig.

If you accidently hit a city water or sewer line during working hours call 541-942-3349 or after hours and weekends call the Cottage Grove Police Department non-emergency number 541-942-9145.

Learn about publicly funded health care during virtual panel discussion

Curious to learn how publicly funded health care can benefit your community? Join Health Care For All Oregon (HCAO) for a panel discussion. Panelists include Monica Beils- how

Richardson-NAACP, Ja- would benefit those they cob Socialists of America, Eugene, and Orion Fulvey-Orchid Health.

The panel will discuss publicly providki Boris—AFSCME, Eric ed universal health care cessed publicly on Zoom.

Trewe—Democratic serve and all communities. The discussion will take place Wednesday, April 21, beginning at 6 p.m.

It will be a virtual discussion that can be acbQvtQCGqL6

HCAO would like liscommunities in Oregon live in.

Register at: https:// to attend the panel disus02web.zoom.us/meet- cussion to learn about the ing/register/tZUodeutr- current state of our health jwpGtG77RPXDujGur- care system and how implementation of a publicly funded system would benteners/readers from all efit communities that they

There will be a Q & A session.

For more information, contact Barbara Harrison by phone at 607-279-6429 or email her at bcharrison0921@gmail.com.

