

Presentation Summary: April is Safe Digging Month

March 21st, 2017

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

Mayor Mike Navarre

- Thousands of miles of utility pipelines under the ground are vulnerable to damage by both contractors and homeowners.
- **At its core, safe digging is a public safety issue.**
- Every time a line is damaged:
 - **There is a risk for property damage, personal injury, and death.**
 - There is call to 911. First responders are called to 95% of our damages.
 - There's a cost to repair the damage, to the delayed project, and to taxpayers who pay for the first responders.
- Alaska's hit rate is **3 times higher** than the rest of the nation.
- New federal penalties seek to protect the public:
 - Civil: Assessed fines up to \$200,000/day
 - Criminal: Imprisonment up to 5 years
- **Public safety could be greatly increased if everyone used 811 and respected the locate marks.**
 - **40% of our damages are by people who failed to call 811.**
- Community Leaders can help protect the public by:
 - Increasing the awareness of 811 and safe digging practices wherever possible
 - **Encouraging the use of contractors who adhere to safe digging practices on public projects through the RFP process**
 - **80% of our damages are caused by contractors.**
 - Signing proclamation declaring April as Safe Digging Month

April is Safe Digging Month

March 21, 2017

Kenai Peninsula Borough



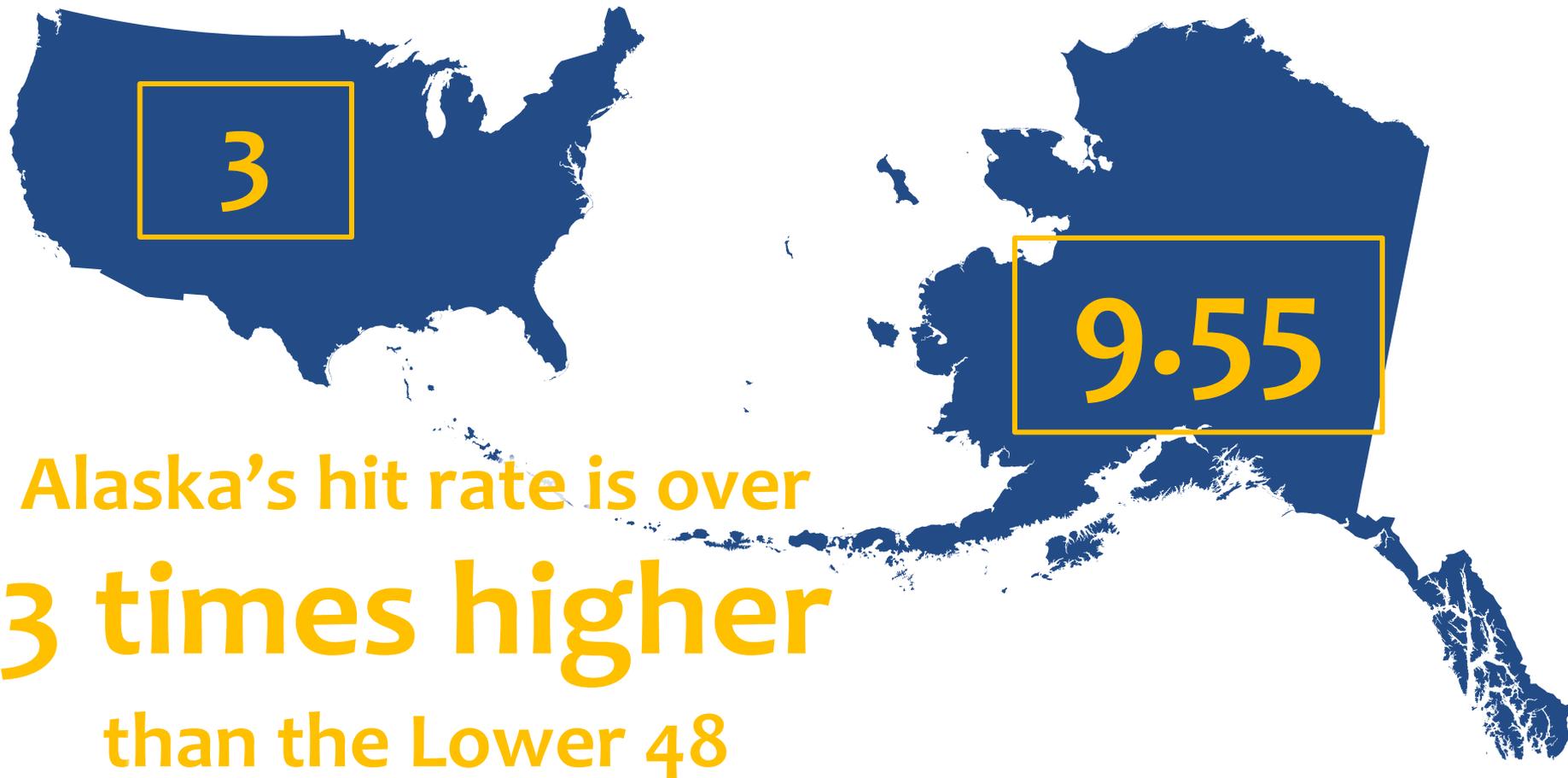
EVERY TIME A LINE IS
DAMAGED:

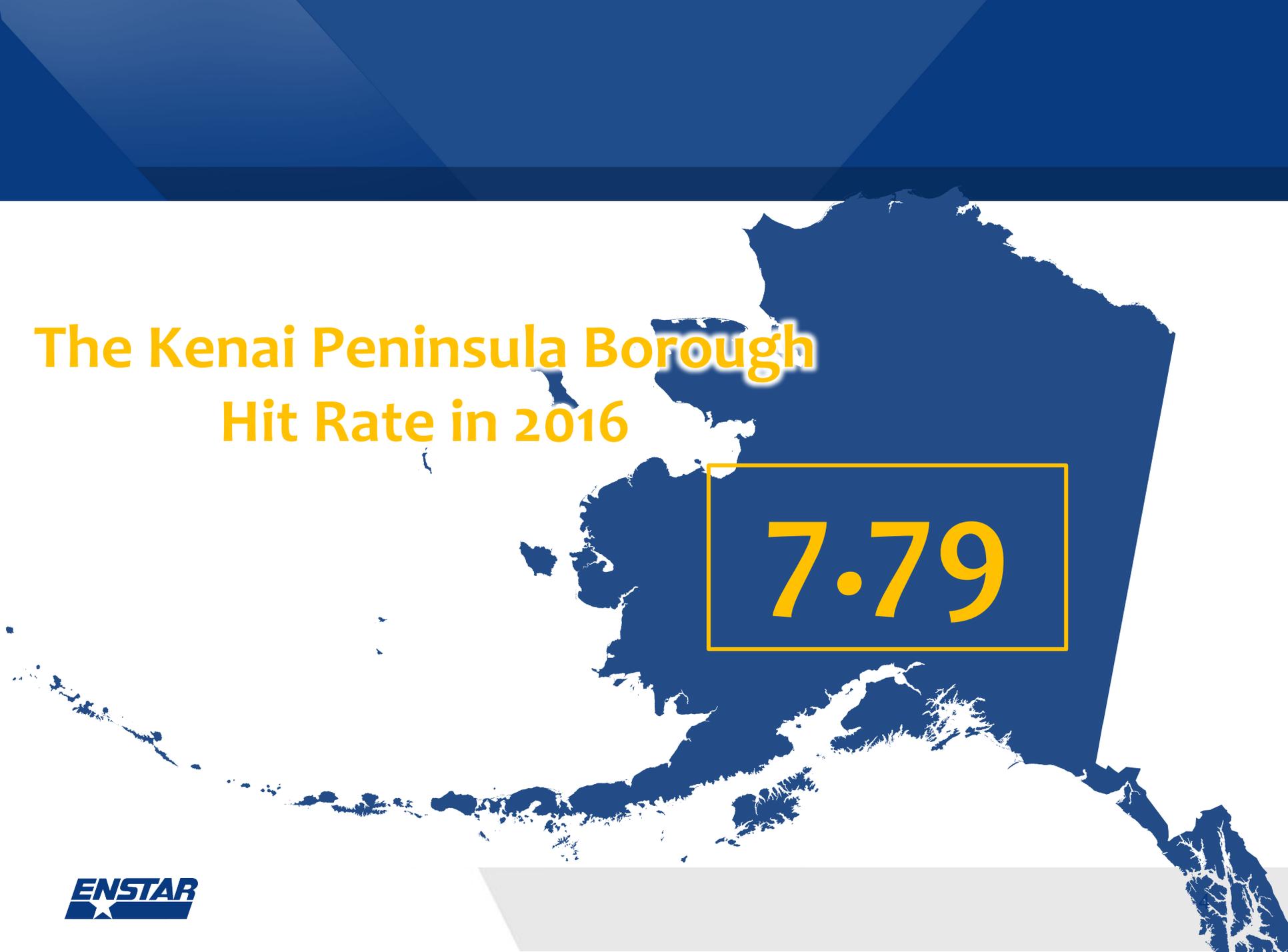
There's a **risk** of major
property loss, personal injury
and death.

There's a call to **911.**

There's a **cost.**







The Kenai Peninsula Borough Hit Rate in 2016

7.79



PHMSA

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**



Effective in 2017:

Civil Penalties:

**Fines up to \$200,000 per
incident.**

Criminal Penalties:

**Imprisonment up to 5
years.**

It's FREE!
and it's the LAW!



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



- Service area-wide
- Free
- One-call locates all underground utility lines



- 1) Make safe digging part of the RFP process.
- 2) Encourage public awareness of 811 and safe digging.

Additional Information

Safe Digging Information:

ENSTAR Natural Gas:

<https://www.enstarnaturalgas.com/construction-services/before-you-dig/>

Alaska 811:

<http://akonecall.com/>

PHMSA Regulations:

PHMSA Civil Charges:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2011-title49/pdf/USCODE-2011-title49-subtitleVIII-chap601-sec60122.pdf>

PHMSA Applicable Codes:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2011-title49/pdf/USCODE-2011-title49-subtitleVIII-chap601-sec60101.pdf>





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