### PHMSA PUBLIC FORUM ON STATE ONE CALL EXEMPTIONS MARCH 14, 2013

Kevin Speicher
Chief, Gas & Petroleum Safety
New York State Dept. of Public Service

#### NY Part 753 Exemptions to "excavation"

- Movement of earth by tools manipulated by human or animal power
- Tilling of soil for agricultural purposes
- Vacuum excavation

## NY Part 753 Exemptions to "excavation"

- Saw cutting and jack-hammering in connection with pavement restoration of a previous excavation where only the pavement is involved.
  - Sometimes misunderstood to exempt all jackhammering. Temporary pavement patches are made over excavations with intent to come back later for permanent repair. If only removing temporary pavement patch – no need to re-notify One Call. This assumes One Call notice was made during original excavation work

## NY Part 753 Exemptions to "underground facility"

- Oil and gas production and gathering pipeline systems used primarily to collect oil or gas from wells
  - Rationale was that they're in rural areas, poor records of location, no tracer wire on plastic pipelines, etc.
  - For new pipelines that need approval to construct at high-pressure (300 psig), NY PSC requires One Call participation.

## NY Part 753 Exemptions to "excavator"

- NY Law defines "Excavator" as "person engaged in a trade or business which includes the carrying out of excavation or demolition"
  - Effect is to exempt homeowners

#### NY Part 753 "Hidden" Exemptions

- Definition of "Underground Facility" specifies "installed by an operator to furnish its services..."
  - operators of some systems (ex: electric, sewer, water) do not install all the way to building - electrician or plumber does that, so utilities do not mark out to building.
  - This causes complaints over who is responsible for damages, how can contractor get these lines marked, etc.

# NY Part 753 "Mythical" Exemptions Private Property

- Some excavators believe no 811 notice is required on private property.
  - Compounded by some facility operators not marking on private property

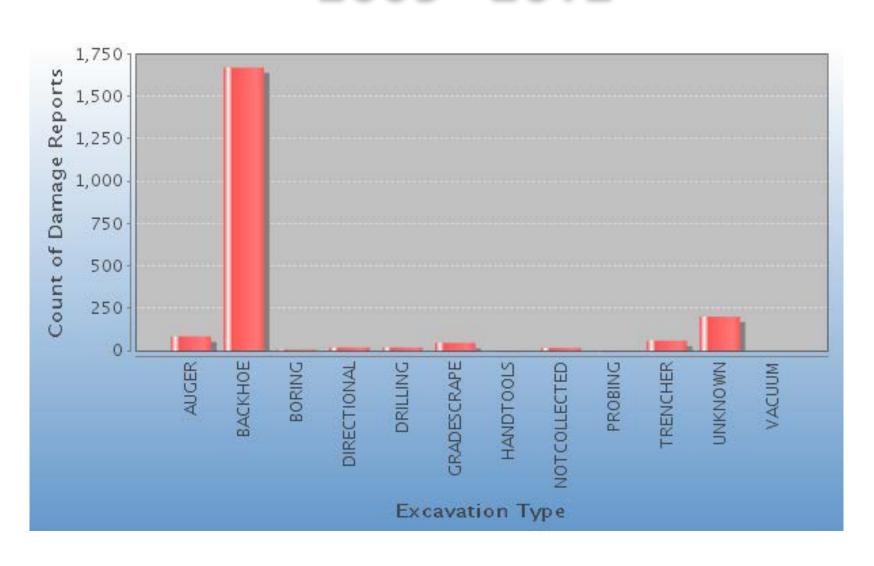
# NY Part 753 "Mythical" Exemptions Breaking Pavement

- NY code allows use of powered machinery to break pavement (only to the depth of pavement) for purposes of verifying accuracy of marks.
  - This leads some excavators to believe no 811 notice is required if only breaking pavement.

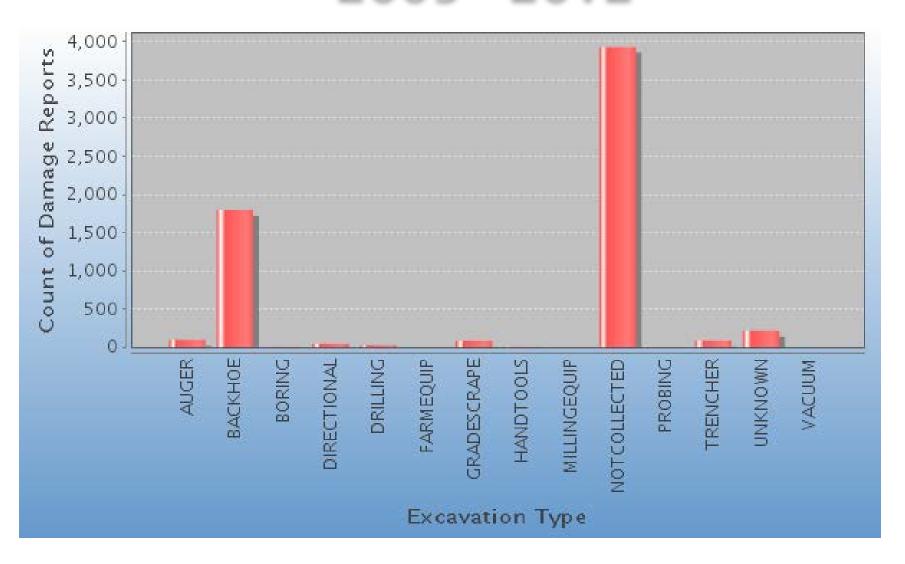
# NY Part 753 "Mythical" Exemptions Tree/Stump Removal

- NY Code defines "excavation" as "any operation for the removal of earth, rock, pavement ... in or on the ground by use of mechanized equipment, including...grading, tree root removal..."
  - "I wasn't excavating, I was only grading!"
  - Grinding a tree stump is Excavation
  - So is pulling out a tree by attaching chain and pulling with backhoe

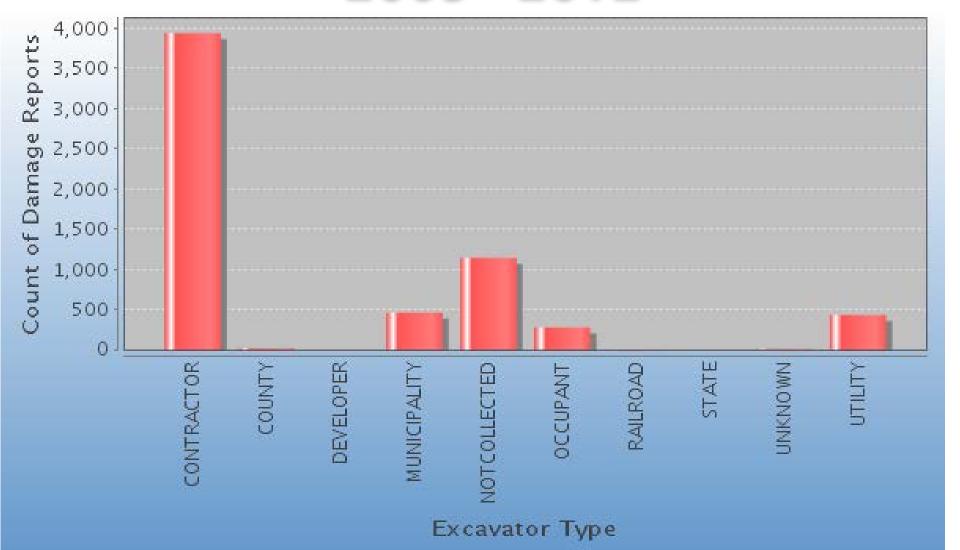
#### NY DPS DIRT Data 2005 - 2012



#### NY DPS + data grant DIRT Data 2005 - 2012



### NY DPS + data grant DIRT Data 2005 - 2012



### DIRT North America Annual Report Was the One Call Center Notified?

