

Why Dig-Safe Certification?



In June of 1999,
a pipeline exploded in
Whatcom Falls Park,
killing three young people.

To
Become a
**RECOGNIZED
AND
CERTIFIED**
Excavator



Dig-Safe Training & Certification

Training Objectives

- Set Safeguards for Construction and Excavation
- Protect Public Health and Safety
- Stay Abreast Law Changes and Regulations
- Define Responsibility & Liability



Training Objectives



- **Process for Proposed Excavation**
 - Locating and marking utilities
 - Pre-excavating process (have a system!)
 - Reporting and repairing damage

- **Pipeline & Utility Damage**
 - Laws, Enforcements & Penalties

- **Protocol & Emergency Response**

- **Best practices**

Dig-Safe Training & Certification



RCW19.122
Definitions

Definitions

Excavation:

✂ “Any operation in which earth, rock, or other material on or below the ground is moved or otherwise displaced by any means.”

Definitions

Underground Facility:

- “[A]ny item buried or placed below ground for use in connection with the storage or conveyance of water, sewage, electronic, telephonic or telegraphic communications, cablevision, electric energy, petroleum products, gas, gaseous vapors, hazardous liquids, or other substances and including but not limited to pipes, sewers, conduits, cables, valves, lines, wires, manholes, attachments, and those parts of poles or anchors that are below ground.”

Definitions

Service Lateral:

- “[A]n underground water, storm water, or sewer facility located on a public right-of-way or utility easement **that connects an end user's building or property to a facility operator's underground facility and terminates beyond the public right of way or utility easement.**”

Dig-Safe Training & Certification



RCW19.122
Changes to the
Law

Changes to the Law

- Increased civil penalties
- Pre-One Call White Lining
- Maintaining marks – 45 calendar days
- Size Limits – 700ft
- Reporting requirements - DIRT

Changes to the Law

- Emergency excavation
- Definition of excavation
- Unidentified underground facilities



Dig-Safe Training & Certification



**Excavator &
Facility Operator
Duties BEFORE
Excavation**

Responsibilities Before Excavation

White Lining Excavation Area:

The excavator *must* mark the excavation area with white paint.

If marking is not feasible because of large area or multiple excavations, excavator must confer with facility operator.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

One-Number Locator Process

Excavator shall provide notice to all owners through a one-number call service

Responsibilities Before Excavation

One Number Locator Process

IMPORTANT!

Excavator must not excavate until operators have marked or provided information regarding all known underground facilities and pipelines.

Washington's One-Locator Service



Call:

8-1-1

Online:

<http://callbeforeyoudig.org>.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Why Do You Need to Call?

- It's the Law!
- Ensures that any publicly owned underground lines will be marked, so that you can dig safely around them.
- Having the utility lines marked not only prevents accidental damage to the lines, but prevents property damage and personal injuries that could result in breaking a line.

Calling 811 – Be Prepared Before You Call

- ❑ Who the work is being done for
- ❑ The county & city of worksite
(and correct spelling!)
- ❑ The address & street of worksite
- ❑ The nearest cross street

Calling 811 – Be Prepared Before You Call

- ❑ Your name & phone number
- ❑ Your company name & mailing address
- ❑ Correct alternate contact information
- ❑ What type of work is being done

Calling 811 – Be Prepared Before You Call

- ❑ Marking instructions
(specific instructions of worksite)
- ❑ Township, range, section, and quarter section
or gps coordinates of the worksite
- ❑ Have pen and paper ready

TIP! Pre-filled call-in form!

Calling 811 – Updating a Ticket



- ❑ You must have your caller ID!
- ❑ You must have your ticket number!
- ❑ Have pen and paper ready

Washington 811 Process

1) Call 811

TIP: Be prepared to be on hold



Peak calling times are
Monday/Tuesday 7-11 A.M. & 3-5 P.M.

Friday afternoons are also busy

TIP: The 2-day rule is 2 full days
example: if you call on Tuesday, you won't dig until Friday. Day you call doesn't count!

Washington 811 Process

2) A representative will ask questions about your worksite.

Tip: Have all your information ready
- on a pre-filled form!

Your information will be read back to you.

Tip: Your approval of what is read back is vital
If it is not read back it's not on the ticket
Conversation is recorded

Washington 811 Process

- 3) You will be provided a list of underground facility owners in your area.

TIP: Keep this handy at all time

- 4) You will be given a date in which the underground lines will be marked.

REMEMBER: The 2-day rule is 2 full days
example: if you call on Tuesday, you won't dig until Friday

Washington 811 Process

5) You will be given a ticket number for your reference.


TIP: The ticket number is YOUR golden item





- * Proves you called and placed a request
- * Describes the area of the worksite
- * Keep this number on hand and in safe spot.
- * Give copy of ticket number to your competent person

NOTE! A voided ticket is not a valid ticket

← → ↻ callbeforeyoudig.org ☆ ☰

Home | Contact | APWA Color Code

 **UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER**
Serving Oregon, Washington, Montana & Hawaii

 **OREGON**  **WASHINGTON**  **MONTANA**  **HAWAII**


CHOOSE YOUR STATE ▲

Call before you dig. It's the law!

The Utility Notification Center is the one-call agency dedicated to safeguarding citizens and construction personnel who work around utilities, as well as safeguarding the underground infrastructure of pipes, mains and lines which bring utilities to your community.

Calling before beginning any excavation prevents damage to underground facilities, service interruptions & bodily injury.

The Utility Notification Center is open 24 hours a day, every day, and accepts calls from contractors, homeowners, or anyone planning to dig in [Oregon](#), [Washington](#), [Montana](#) and [Hawaii](#). Calling before you dig

 **ITIC**
 Homeowners and Professional Excavators can submit their Locate Requests Online!
 To get started first choose your

<http://www.callbeforeyoudig.org/>

White	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
Fluorescent Pink	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
Red	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
Yellow	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
Orange	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLES OR CONDUIT
Blue	POTABLE WATER
Purple	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
Green	SEWERS AND DRAIN LINES

APWA Color Code

← → ↻ www.managetickets.com 🔑 ⭐ ☰

[Home](#) [Contact](#)

Locator Ticket Management

Excavator Ticket Management

Damage Manager

Ticket Check

Search & Status™

Welcome to the National Ticket Management System - a complete software solution for the one call industry. With four products built into the system, the right solution is available whatever your needs might be. Please note that Search and Status is available to the public as no login is required.

Client Login	Determine Your Needs	Search & Status
<p>Login:</p> <input type="text" value="ben-kempg"/> Password: <input type="password" value="*****"/> <i>Password is case sensitive.</i> <input type="button" value="Go"/> Forgot your login or password? Need to register? <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> </div>	<h2 style="color: #0070C0;">Who Are You?</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Locator ➔ Excavator ➔ Facility Owner ➔ Call Center 	<p>Quick Search</p> Ticket #: <input type="text"/> State: <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/> Detailed Search State: <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/> <p><small>Disclaimer: Excavators personal information contained on this site as part of the locate request is for facility operators user and documentation purposes only and is NOT to be used for marketing or solicitation of services in any way. By engaging in a search, you agree to abide to these terms and conditions.</small></p>

[click for more](#)

[Home](#) | [Locator Ticket Management](#) | [Excavator Ticket Management](#) | [Damage Manager](#) | [Ticket Check](#) | [Search & Status](#) | [About](#) | [Contact](#)
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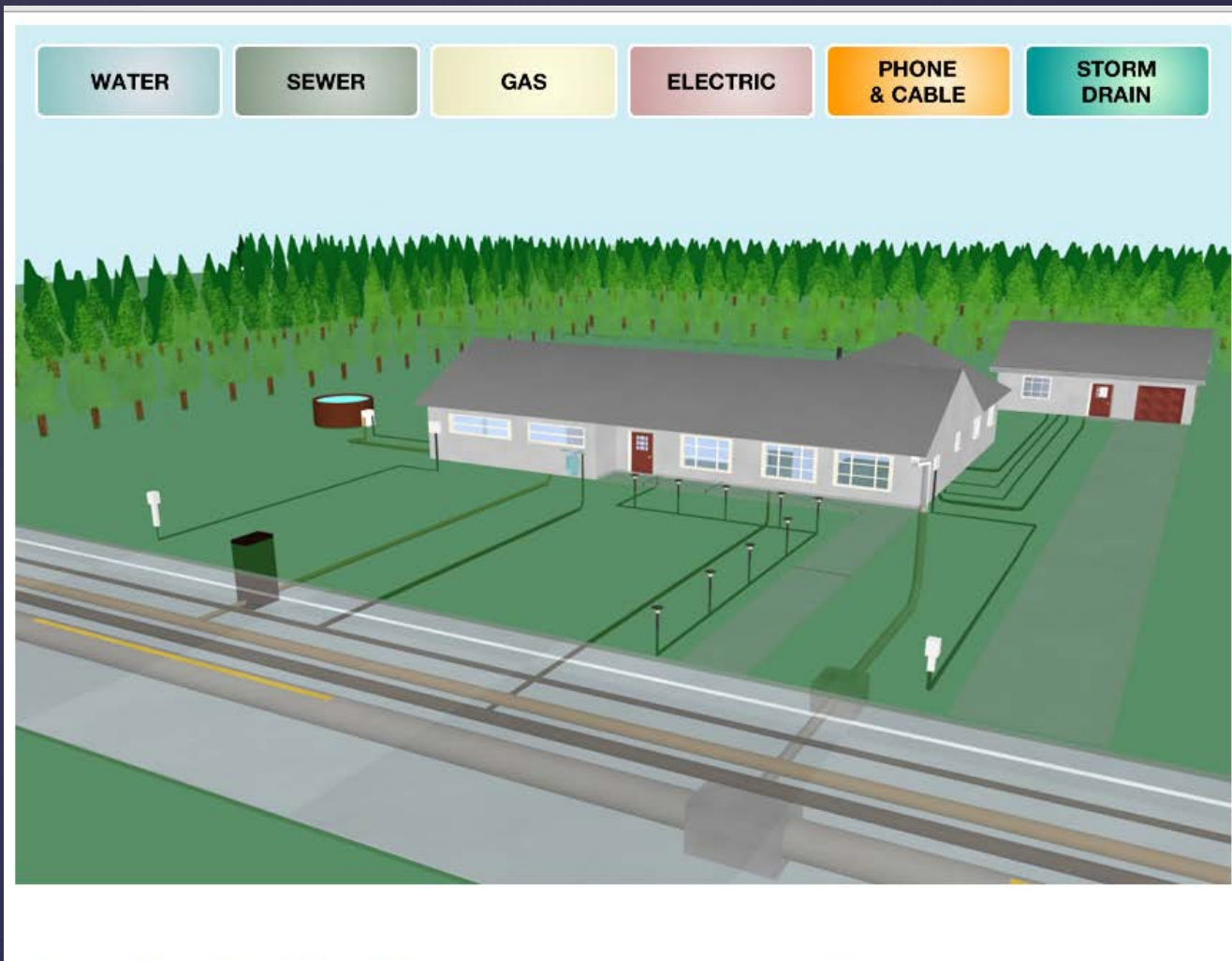
<http://www.managetickets.com/>

Utility Markings

District Code	Company Name
360NET01	360 NETWORKS USA
ATT08	AT&T CORP
CC7700	COMCAST CABLE
ELCLT05	ELECTRIC LIGHT WAVE
KCMTRO01	KING CNTY METRO SEWER
LEVEL301	LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS
MCI01	MCI
METRAN01	METRO TRANSIT
MILDIG01	BROADSTRIPE
MTRMED01	ABOVENET COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
PUGG03	PUGET SOUND ENERGY GAS
QLNWA17	QLN-QWEST LOCAL NETWRK
QWEST05	QWEST COMMUNICATIONS
SEACL01	SEATTLE CITY LIGHT
SEAH2001	SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES-WATER
SEASIG01	SEATTLE D.O.T.
SEASTM01	SEATTLE STEAM CORPORATION
STARCM01	ALLSTREAM
STTL01	SOUND TRANSIT
TWTWA01	T W TELECOM
WSDOT12	WSDOT - SIGNAL BRANCH OFFICE
XO02	XO COMMUNICATIONS

A Day in the Life of a Locator





Color Codes & Demarcation

Bad Locate Markings



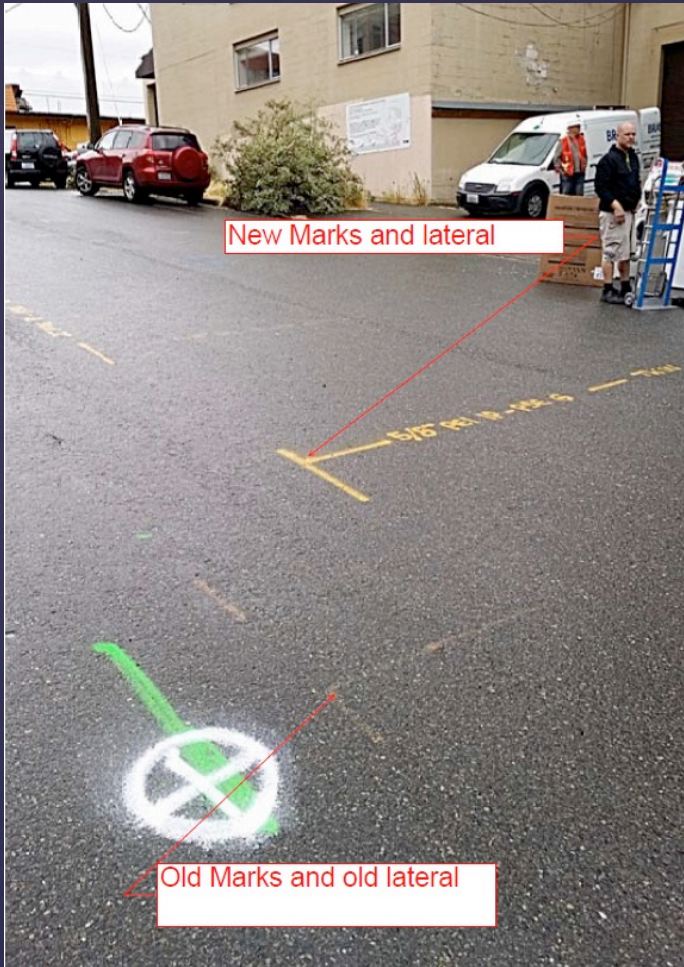
Maintaining the Marks

Utility Owner Responsibility

The utility owner shall locate locatable utilities by surface marking within two (2) feet of the outside dimensions of both sides of the utility.









What is wrong with these marks?



And These?



White Lining-Win!!



Win & Fail



1



Loc
PHD

to S. center
PKWY

No PSE G

PT

AREA



OC
D
center
PKWY

No PSE G
MT AREA

do not
park



1-11-11
1000

NO
PSE

6

MUSCA

Above Ground Markers



Responsibilities Before Excavation

Contractor Obligations –

- Contractor is required to provide notice of commencement of excavation through the one call service.
- The notice shall be communicated to the Utility not less than two (2) business days nor more than ten (10) business days before the scheduled date for commencement of excavation.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Owner Responsibility

Upon notice, the owner shall provide the excavator with **reasonably accurate** information as to its locatable underground facilities and marking the location of the facilities.

What is reasonable accuracy?

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Reasonable Accuracy

= location within twenty-four inches of the outside dimensions of both sides of an underground facility.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Owner shall respond no later than 2 days after receiving notice

Remember:

What does 2 days mean?

TIP:

Don't plan to excavate the morning of day 2

Responsibilities Before Excavation



Public Right of Way

Owner must mark locatable facilities within the public right-of-way and marked excavation area.

- Must “designate the presence or location” of “service laterals” if the service lateral
 - (1) connects the end user to the facility operator’s main utility line, and
 - (2) within a public right-of-way or utility easement.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Private Property

The End User is “responsible for determining the location of a service lateral on their property or a service lateral that they own” but not if the service lateral is within a right-of-way or utility easement.

An end user, however, is not required to subscribe to a one-call statute.

TIP: Have a dialogue with the end users
BEFORE digging

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Public vs. Private Easements

Practice Pointer:

- ⌘ **Public right-of-way or utility easement = Facility Operator** (*even service laterals*)
- ⌘ **Private property = End User** (*usually through a private locate service*)

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Owner must provide information about unlocatable facilities.



What is an
“unlocatable facility”?

Responsibilities Before Excavation

“Unlocatable Underground Facilities”:

- ⌘ “[A]n underground facility that cannot be marked with **reasonable accuracy** using the available information to designate the location of an underground facility.”
- ⌘ Including, but not limited to,
 - ⌘ *service laterals*
 - ⌘ *storm drains*
 - ⌘ *nonconductive and nonmetallic underground facilities that do not contain trace wires*

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Appurtenances Clause

✎

Beginning January 1, 2013, a facility operator **MUST** identify **ALL** service laterals or appurtenances **even if there are other visible facilities**, the only exception are water lines.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

The Waterline Exception:

The Appurtenance clause holds true **UNLESS** the line “convey[s] *only water* and the presence [of the service lateral] can be determined from other visible water facilities, such as water meters, water valve covers, and junctions boxes in or adjacent to the boundary of an excavation area.”

Key Points

- Obligation placed on contractor to look around
- Assume straight line (but not always so)
- Work with water company as needed

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Failure to notify the one-number locator services – subject to civil penalty of not more than \$1000 per violation (mutually exclusive to damage) and up to \$5000 for subsequent violations.



Responsibilities Before Excavation

EXCEPTIONS:

- (1) operator was provided valid confirmation code
- (2) excavation performed in emergency situation
- (3) operator provided false confirmation code by identifiable third party

Responsibilities Before Excavation

EXCAVATOR RIGHTS

Excavators shall have the right to receive compensation from the owner of the underground facility for costs incurred if the owner of the underground facility does not locate its facilities in accordance with this section.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

OWNER RIGHTS

The owner of the underground facility shall have the right to receive compensation for costs incurred in responding to excavation notices given less than two business days prior to the excavation from the excavator.

Responsibilities Before Excavation

Important!

If excavator discovers unidentified facilities,
must cease excavation and notify facility
operator or owner

Key Natural Gas Awareness Reminders

- Know how to detect a natural gas leak
- Know what to do if you suspect a natural gas leak
- Know how to prevent damage to a pipeline –
CALL 811 before you Dig!
- Recognize pipeline markers



Responsibilities Before Excavation

Exemptions to the Law:

- Emergency situations
- Excavation of less than 12" for agricultural purposes less than 12" w/in utility easement and 20" outside of utility easement
- Road maintenance involving excavation less than 6"
- Replacement of traffic signs installed prior to Jan. 1, 2013

Dig-Safe Training & Certification



RCW19.122
Maintenance of
Marks

Maintenance of Marks

Excavator Responsibility

The excavator protects and preserves the staking, marking, or other designation of underground facilities until no longer required for proper and safe excavation.

Excavator must maintain the marks for a period of 45 days or the length of the project. Whichever is the lesser.

****Remember the clock starts the day of the call.**

Maintenance of Marks

The excavator is responsible for maintaining the marks.

How do you maintain the marks?

Maintenance of Marks

Excavator Responsibility

If the excavator, while performing the contract, discovers underground facilities which are not identified, the excavator shall cease excavating in the vicinity of the facility and immediately notify the owner or operator of such facilities, or the one-number locator service.

Maintenance of Marks

It is the excavator's responsibility to call the one-number locator service prior to forty five days to request re-marking of underground facilities.

Call BEFORE 45 days!!

Maintenance of Marks

Damaged, Removed & Mismarked Markings

The excavator notifies the facility owner/ operator directly - or through the one call center - if an underground facility is not found where one has been marked or if an unmarked underground facility is found.

Maintenance of Marks – Best Practices

Following this notification, the excavator may continue work if the excavation can be performed without damaging the facility, unless specified otherwise in state/provincial law.

If excavation continues, the excavator must plan the excavation to avoid damage and interference.

Maintaining the Marks – The Law



Project Owner Responsibility

Owners must identify in the bid or contract documents the existence of underground utilities known by the Owner to be located within the proposed area of excavation.

Maintaining the Marks

Project Owner Liability

If an Owner does not identify a known utility, it is deemed a changed or differing site condition, and the Owner is liable for damages and attorneys' fees.

Maintaining the Marks

Utility Owner Responsibility

For identified, but unlocatable, underground utilities, the Utility shall provide the contractor with the best available information as to their locations.

Maintaining the Marks

Contractor/Excavator Responsibility

If a contractor discovers underground utilities which are not identified, the contractor is required to **cease excavating** in the area immediately, and notify the Owner of such utility or the one call service.

Maintaining the Marks

Contractors are required to use reasonable care to avoid damaging underground utilities.

WHAT IS "REASONABLE CARE"?

Maintaining the Marks

Reasonable care -

Determine the precise location of marked underground utilities.

Maintaining the Marks

Reasonable care -

Plan the excavation to avoid damage or minimize interference with underground utilities in or near the excavation area.



Maintaining the Marks

Reasonable care –



Provide support for underground utilities in the construction area, including during backfill operations, as may be necessary for their protection.

Maintaining the Marks



- What if utilities are shown on the plans as not being in conflict with the work, but are in fact in conflict with the work?

Maintaining the Marks

General Rule

Where plans or specifications lead a contractor to reasonably believe that conditions represented therein do exist, and may be relied upon in bidding, it is entitled to compensation for extra expense incurred as a result of the inaccuracy of those representations.

The liability is premised upon the contractor's reasonable reliance upon inaccurate representations.

Dig-Safe Training & Certification



**RCW19.122
Damage to
Underground
Facility**

Damage to Underground Facility

EXCAVATOR RESPONSIBILITY

An excavator who contacts or damages an underground facility must

- a. notify the utility owner
- b. notify one-call center
- c. allow owner to come make repairs
- d. allow owner to re-map
- e. report it to **D.I.R.T.** – **Damage Information Reporting Tool**

Damage to Underground Facility

EXCAVATOR RESPONSIBILITY

If the damage causes an emergency condition, the excavator causing the damage must also alert the appropriate local public safety agencies and take all appropriate steps to assure public safety.

Damage to Underground Facility

EXCAVATOR RESPONSIBILITY

No damaged facility can be buried until it is repaired or relocated.

Do not let damaged facility get re-buried without inspection!

Damage to Underground Facility

FACILITY OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the owner's responsibility to arrange for repairs or relocation – the owner may permit the excavator to make such repairs or relocation at a mutually acceptable price.

Damage to Underground Facility

Liability



If an underground utility is damaged as a result of a contractor's failure to abide by these requirements, the contractor is liable to the utility owner for damages and attorneys' fees.

Damage to Underground Facility

Willful and Malicious Damage

A contractor who fails to notify the one call service, and damages an underground utility, is liable to the utility owner for **three times the cost** incurred in repairing or relocating the utility.

Damage to Underground Facility

Overhead – Recoverable by Utility Owner

A utility **may recover its full cost** of repairing damaged property, including indirect costs such as overhead, so long as such costs can be calculated accurately.

Damage to Underground Facility

Excavator Rights to Compensation when a Facility is "Hit"

- Reasonable compensation from a facility operator for the costs incurred by the excavator **if the facility operator does not locate its underground facilities in accordance with the requirements of the statute.**

Damage to Underground Facility

DIRT Reporting

NOW Required in the

“One Call Law”!

Both the Owner and the Excavator must report!

Damage to Underground Facility

Damage Incident Reporting Tool

- submit damage and near miss reports
- browse files
- administer roles based on company and user information
- edit personal profiles
- submit feedback

Damage to Underground Facility

DIRT FIELD FORM

Go to UTC Website

www.utc.wa.gov/damagereporting

Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) - Field Form

Part A – Who is Submitting This Information

Who is providing the information?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excavator	<input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineer/Design
<input type="checkbox"/> One-Call Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Pipeline	<input type="checkbox"/> Locator
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Builders	<input type="checkbox"/> State Regulator		<input type="checkbox"/> Public Works
			<input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications
			<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Manufacturer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad
			<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other

Name of the person providing the information:

Part B - Date and Location of Event

*Date of Event:		(MM/DD/YYYY)	
*Country	*State	*County	City
Street address			
Nearest Intersection			
*Right of Way where event occurred			
Public:	<input type="checkbox"/> City Street	<input type="checkbox"/> State Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> County Road
			<input type="checkbox"/> Interstate Highway
Private:	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Land Owner	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Easement
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline	<input type="checkbox"/> Power /Transmission Line	<input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Public Utility Easement
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Land	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Data not collected
			<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other

Part C – Affected Facility Information

*What type of facility operation was affected?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Cable Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Pipeline	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer (Sanitary Sewer)
<input type="checkbox"/> Steam	<input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Water		<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
*What type of facility was affected?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribution	<input type="checkbox"/> Gathering	<input type="checkbox"/> Service/Drop	<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
Was the facility part of a joint trench?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
Was the facility owner a member of One-Call Center?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No		

Part D – Excavation Information

*Type of Excavator				
<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Developer	<input type="checkbox"/> Farmer	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipality
<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Utility	<input type="checkbox"/> Data not collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupant
				<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
*Type of Excavation Equipment				
<input type="checkbox"/> Auger	<input type="checkbox"/> Backhoe/Trackhoe	<input type="checkbox"/> Boring	<input type="checkbox"/> Drilling	<input type="checkbox"/> Directional Drilling
<input type="checkbox"/> Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Grader/Scraper	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Tools	<input type="checkbox"/> Milling Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Probing Device	<input type="checkbox"/> Trencher	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Not Collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
*Type of Work Performed				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Cable Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Curb/Sidewalk	<input type="checkbox"/> Bldg. Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Bldg. Demolition
<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage	<input type="checkbox"/> Driveway	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Fencing
<input type="checkbox"/> Grading	<input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping	<input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Pipeline	<input type="checkbox"/> Milling
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Pole	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transit Auth.	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Maint.	<input type="checkbox"/> Road Work
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer (San/Stom)	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Steam	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Drain/Culvert	<input type="checkbox"/> Street Light
<input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunication	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Signal	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Sign	<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Waterway Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> Data Not Collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other			

Part E – Notification

*Was the One-Call Center notified?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If Yes, Part F is required)	<input type="checkbox"/> No (If No, Skip Part F)
If Yes, which One-Call Center?	
If Yes, please provide the ticket number	

Part F - Locating and Marking

*Type of Locator			
<input type="checkbox"/> Utility Owner	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Locator	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Not Collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
*Were facility marks visible in the area of excavation?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Not Collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other
*Were facilities marked correctly?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Not Collected	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown/Other

HIT KIT CHECK LIST

Recommended Steps to Pursue When a Utility is Hit or Damaged

HIT KIT CHECK LIST



1. Stop all work in the area of the utility hit.

2. Secure the site.

- a. If there are any personal injuries, administer first aid and call appropriate emergency services.
- b. Ensure that the area is safe, and traffic is rerouted.
- c. Secure the area for safe documentation.

HIT KIT CHECK LIST

3. Notify your home office, the utility owner and locator of the hit.

HIT KIT CHECK LIST

4. Document the site conditions

Photographs!

- a. Take Close-up photographs of the hit area
- b. Take perspective photographs of the area of the hit to provide depth and context of the condition
- c. Use the Hit-Kit tape or some other device to provide dimensions in the photographs
- d. Mark the utilities lines with wire flags that are contained in your kit, to give the photos perspective and context.



HIT KIT CHECK LIST

5. Document the site conditions

(in writing)

- a. Note all witnesses to the incident
(take photos of the witnesses if you do not get positive identification).
- b. Fill in the Hit-Kit form and give a written narrative description of the events as close to the time of the incident as possible.

HIT KIT CHECK LIST

6. Document the site conditions

(Document your conversations)

- a. Obtain **business cards** of all when possible.
- b. Take photos of the vehicles and **license plate numbers** (photos of the officials if you are not sure as to who they are).
- c. Answer the questions forthrightly, **do not volunteer information** unless directed to do so by the home office.

Dig-Safe Training & Certification



RCW19.122
Safety
Committee

Safety Committee

- The statute directs the UTC to contract with a nonprofit entity.
- The nonprofit must create a 13-member Safety Committee consisting of participants over all industries dealing with underground utilities, such as

Contractors

Excavators,

Electrical utilities

Pipeline companies

UTC,

Telecommunication companies & Insurance

Safety Committee

- The Safety Committee, in reviewing complaints, will make written notifications to the UTC of violations with supporting documentation
- For every one facility operator representative there must be one excavator representative when reviewing complaints.

Safety Committee

- The Safety Committee then *may* provide written notification to the UTC with supporting documentation to show that a violation of the statute has occurred and recommend remedial action and/or penalties
- The UTC *may* enforce the Safety Committee's recommendation

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RCW19.122
Commission
Authority

Commission Authority

Only the UTC may enforce the civil penalties, while taking into consideration the Safety Committee's notifications.

Commission Authority

Safety Committee and UTC *may or may not* investigate and enforce alleged violations of the statute (there is no language in statute making enforcement a requirement).

Commission Authority

There is, however, some incentive to enforce violations and impose penalties:

All penalties paid will be placed into a “damage prevention account” to fund “educational programming designed to improve worker and public safety relating to excavation and underground facilities.”



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