



Toolbox Talk

Topic: Underground Utilities








Excavation/Dig Permit

Local One Call utility locating must be called for ground survey at least two days before the scheduled operation. It's required for all pipe and grading operation or similar ground penetrating operations.

Potholing

Before excavating, potholing for the utilities will take place. Potholing is verifying the location and depth of the utility lines. Potholing will be done using hand labor, a VAC truck (if available) or a small hoe. Equipment can be used in conjunction with hand labor to accomplish the Potholing of the utility.

Colors and symbols have been adopted by all utilities. The following are color codes for marking underground utilities.

Underground Utilities Color Markers		
	Blue	Water
	Orange	Telephone, Railroad, Cable TV
	Green	Sewer, Storm Drain
	Red	Street Lighting, Electric, Traffic Signals (traffic signals may be orange)
	Yellow	Gas
	Pink	Survey
	White	Proposed Excavation

NOTE: Utilities located by Dig Safe have a two-foot safe zone. In other words, the utility should be within the markings plus or minus two feet. They do not show depth! Always use hand tools when working within two feet of a marked and unexposed underground line.

- Potholing should be done in six-inch lifts using shovels or pry bars until the utility is exposed in the work location.
- For the locations that the gas and electric lines are within 25 feet of your work area, pothole every 10 feet to verify that the line has not changed directions.
- At least two potholes are recommended for each utility within the work zone.
- In case a utility is damaged, notify the utility owner and safety.



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Date:

Presented by:

Organization/Department Name

Attendee Printed Name	Signature

Comments: