



TOOLBOX TALKS

#1 LOCATING UNDERGROUND UTILITIES BEFORE YOU DIG

BACKGROUND

Every year, underground infrastructures and utilities are unintentionally struck across Canada. Unsafe digging could result in serious injury or death, fines and repair costs, or interrupted services. Although many underground infrastructures and utilities are found in urban areas, rural areas also have a number of these services.

WORK ACTIVITY

It is important to plan where to dig before starting any work. Whether it's digging a trench or installing a fence, finding out where underground utilities are is essential.

Examples of activities that require a utility locate include:

- Ground levelling
- Sludge spreading
- Clearing / brushing
- Reducing or adding soil cover
- Deep tiling / sub-soiling
- Trenching
- Earth moving
- Drainage ditch clean out
- Controlled burning
- Drain tile installation
- Terracing
- Fencing and landscaping
- Excavation
- Augering
- Stockpiling / storage / parking
- Blasting activities
- Building construction

KEY POINTS:

Call a One-Call Centre or visit ClickBeforeYouDig.com to submit a locate request. This is an appointment for the utility to come to the location and mark out the location of any buried utilities. It usually takes 3 to 5 business days to complete a locate. You will be notified if a locate requires written consent. Once the locate process is completed, the utility company may grant consent without conditions, grant consent that



CASA | ACSA
CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SÉCURITÉ AGRICOLE

TALK LEADER INSTRUCTIONS

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize your talk to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the workers.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible. Ask your workers for their experiences.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

requires certain conditions to be met to assure safety, or not grant consent to dig at all. Do not dig until you have confirmed all notified utilities have responded to your locate request.

Paint, stakes or flags are various ways that underground infrastructures owners mark where these utilities are. Each infrastructure has a unique colour assigned.

RED - ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUITS AND DUCTS OR LIGHTING WIRES AND CABLE

YELLOW - GAS, OIL, PETROLEUM, STEAM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS

ORANGE - COMMUNICATION

BLUE - WATER

GREEN - STORM/SEWER

PURPLE - IRRIGATION/SLURRY

PINK - TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKS

WHITE - PROPOSED EXCAVATION

REMEMBER: CUSTOMER-OWNED UTILITY LINES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. Utility owners do not know the location of these lines.

CANADA: <http://www.clickbeforeyoudig.com>

BRITISH COLUMBIA: <https://www.bc1c.ca>
1-800-474-6886

ALBERTA: <http://albertaonecall.com> 1-800-242-3447

SASKATCHEWAN: <https://www.sask1stcall.com/request-phone> 1-866-828-4888

MANITOBA: <http://clickbeforeyoudigmb.com>
1.800.940.3447

ONTARIO: <https://www.ontarioonecall.ca>
1-800-400-2255

QUEBEC & ATLANTIC CANADA: <https://www.info-ex.com/en>

YUKON, NWT AND NUNAVUT: Contact infrastructure owners directly

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____