

What is Dig Safe?

A safe digging project must always start with a call to Dig Safe.

We are a not-for-profit clearinghouse that dispatches participating utility companies to mark where their underground lines are buried. This is free service, paid for by participating member utilities.



Why should I call Dig Safe?

Damaging an underground facility is dangerous – for you, and for the people around you. A broken pipe or cable also causes outages, expensive repairs and legal problems. This is why state law requires a call to 811, even for property owners digging on private land.



When should I call Dig Safe?

Even small, shallow jobs are a risk if you don't know where utilities are buried. Call Dig Safe any time you dig, for any type of project.

- Landscaping
- Retaining Wall
- Dog Fence
- Basketball Hoop
- Root Removal
- Fencing
- Clothesline
- Swing Set
- Planting
- Patio
- Walkway
- Irrigation
- Mailbox
- Driveway

How far in advance do I call?

Law requires at least 72 business hours notice in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island; 48 business hours in Vermont – excluding weekends and holidays.

You must also “pre-mark” the area where you plan to dig before calling, using white stakes, paint or flags. This helps the locating technician reduce excess markings where you don't need them.

Who marks the lines?

Utility companies (NOT Dig Safe) mark their own lines. Dig Safe is the communication network that notifies these companies to respond for a mark-out. Some utility members use contract locating companies to mark their lines. Member companies are not responsible to mark privately owned facilities.

What information do I need?

This is what we'll ask for when you call.

- *Where is the physical address where the work will take place?*
- *Is this property bounded by any other streets?*
- *What are the two cross streets that the property is in between?*
- *What type of work are you doing?*
- *Where on your property will the work take place?*
- *Is the area pre-marked? (Before calling, mark out the area where you plan to work using white stakes, paint or flags.)*
- *Is there any other information that will help the utility companies find where you are working?*
- *If not yourself, who is doing the digging?*



What happens after I call?

The participating utility companies will respond within 72 business hours (48 business hours in Vermont) to mark the location of their underground facilities. You do not need to be home, unless you have specific questions, need to restrain pets, or give the locating technicians access to your property.

Underground utilities are marked out with paint, stakes or flags, using a national color coding system.



The Color Coding System

Color coded paint or flags are used to identify the type of underground facilities.

RED	<i>Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables</i>
YELLOW	<i>Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials</i>
ORANGE	<i>Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit</i>
BLUE	<i>Potable Water</i>
GREEN	<i>Sewers and Drain Lines</i>
PURPLE	<i>Non-Potable Water: Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines</i>
PINK	<i>Temporary Survey Markings</i>

How can I get more information?

We're happy to talk to you about our free safety service. Give us a call at 811 Monday through Friday, between 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. Or click to digsafe.com for everything you need to know.



Dial 811 or 1-888-DIG-SAFE (888-344-7233)
or visit www.digsafe.com

DATE OF LAST REVISION 1/12



*Don't dig yourself into trouble.
Call Dig Safe before you dig.
It's Smart. It's Free. It's the Law.*



Dial **811**
digsafe.com