



# Dig Law Update

June 7, 2013

Utilities and Transportation Commission

Volume 2, Issue 1

## Dig Law Questions?

### Law Questions and Outreach

(360) 664-1118

### Locate Problem

(888) 333-9882

### Call Before You Dig

811 or [callbeforeyoudig.org](http://callbeforeyoudig.org)

PO Box 47250

1300 S Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
Olympia WA 98504[www.utc.wa.gov](http://www.utc.wa.gov)

### UTC Mission

The UTC regulates the services of privately or investor owned utility and transportation companies. Our mission is to ensure that services are fairly priced, available, reliable and safe.

## First Quarter Damage

Hot off the press, the first report using our DIRT

damage data is here! See what our first quarter damages look like and what it means for Washington's overall damage picture. The results may surprise you. To view the report, [click here](#).



## Damage Reporting—It's Mandatory!

Are we beginning to sound like a broken record? Don't forget you now are required to report damages to the commission within 45 calendar days. The number of companies subscribed to DIRT is nowhere near where it should be. If you have not already registered with the commission's VirtualDIRT, [click here](#). **If you have registered, it is important that you "share" your DIRT data.** If you do not share your data, the commission will not receive your reports and they will not be included in Washington's damage statistics. To share your data, company administrators need to select the "Grant Data" option on the main menu. For more detailed instructions, [click here](#). DIRT can be accessed via a link on the [commission's website](#). If you have any questions regarding DIRT, sharing data or the new requirement, contact [Anna Gill](#).



## Safety Committee Update

If you have a complaint regarding violations of the dig law as of Jan. 1, [file a complaint](#) with the Dig Law Safety Committee. This is your recourse if others are not following the law. Keep in mind, complaints brought to the committee will be heard at the next quarterly meeting. You will be required to express your case either in person or via telephone. The committee is also charged with advising government entities, including the Legislature, about best practices, training and policies to enhance public safety. If you have any issues you would like to see the committee address, contact them via the [Washington Utilities Coordinating Council](#).



## Question of the Month

With the new law now in effect, we thought it would be helpful to publish questions and hot topics pertaining to the new dig law in each update. Remember, the commission is here to help with any questions or issues you might have.

**Q: To get around the large project stipulation, can I call in multiple tickets under 700 linear feet?**

**A:** Nice try, but no. The large project stipulation in the law, 19.122.030(2), speaks to both large projects and multiple sites. By calling in multiple tickets for the same project you are not meeting the *intent* or *spirit* of the law and ultimately not in compliance. Remember, these changes were added to foster communication and help all parties. Requiring utilities to mark large areas in two business days is not only unfair but unrealistic. Work together and come up with a solution to your marking needs that is acceptable for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding this answer, or about RCW 19.122 in general, contact [Anna Gill](#).