

Dig Law Update

September 2013

Utilities and Transportation Commission

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Dig Law Questions?

Law Questions and Outreach

(360) 664-1118

Locate Problem

(888) 333-9882

Call Before You Dig

811 or callbeforeyoudig.org

PO Box 47250

1300 S Evergreen Park Dr. SW

Olympia WA 98504

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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.

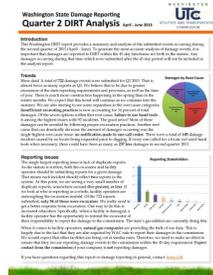
Clear as Mud

Is your company, organization or agency familiar with all the changes to the dig law? If you are having trouble with the new requirements, and would like some clarification or training, the commission can help! Contact [Anna Gill](mailto:agill@utc.wa.gov) for more info.



Second Quarter Damage Report

It is time to take a look at second quarter's DIRT damage reports. The commission has a brief overview of the data for April through June available on our website. We have more data to analyze this quarter, however we are not seeing an even distribution of reporting by stakeholder groups. To see the report, [click here](#). If you have not already registered with the commission's Virtual DIRT, [click here](#). If you have any questions regarding DIRT, sharing data or the new requirement, contact [Anna Gill](#).



Have a Complaint about a Dig Law Violation?

If you have a complaint regarding violations of the dig law as of Jan. 1, [file a complaint](#) with the Dig Law Safety Committee. Keep in mind, complaints brought to the committee will be heard at the next quarterly meeting. You will be required to present your case either in person or via telephone and provide documentation to support your claim. For more information about the Safety Committee, contact them via the [Washington Utilities Coordinating Council](#).

How are Things Going?

The dig law has now been in effect for eight months and the commission wants to know how it is going. In December 2015, the commission will provide a report to the Legislature detailing what is working, or not, with the new statute and ultimately how affective it is. We need to hear from those of you "in the trenches." If you have suggestions for improvements or just want to reiterate what is working well, contact [Anna Gill](#).

Question of the Month

With the new law now in effect, we thought it would be helpful to publish questions 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: If the facility operator is unsure of the mainline location of a utility, is it acceptable to place a triangular mark in the public right-of-way as evidence of unknown mainline location?

A: Technically, yes. The better thing to do is (ii) and (iii) of that section ([19.122.030\(4\)\(b\)](#)): meeting with the excavator at the worksite to provide information about the location of the facility, and providing copies of the best available records via email, mail, or other delivery method. The main goal of these changes to the law is to *foster communication between the excavator and facility operator*. We would highly encourage you to not just mark a triangle and be done with it.

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