

Dig Law Update

July 3, 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
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.

How are Things Going?

The dig law has now been in effect for six months. After half a year following these new rules, 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. If you have any legitimate suggestions for improvements or just want to reiterate what is working well, contact [Anna Gill](mailto:agill@utc.wa.gov).

Damage Reporting—Way-To-Go Washington!

Congratulations Washington stakeholders, according to the Common Ground Alliance, the UTC's private VirtualDIRT has more users than any other Private VirtualDIRT account in the country! Lets keep up the momentum. If you have not already registered with the commission's VirtualDIRT, [click here](#). 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. 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. The committee's next meeting and first hearing will be held on Sept. 17 at the Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility in Vantage (pictured above). For more information about the Safety Committee, contact them via the [Washington Utilities Coordinating Council](#).



Dig-Safe Training

The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) of Washington has developed a comprehensive training for all industry stakeholders called "Dig-Safe Certification." The training covers best digging practices and changes to the [dig law](#). If you are interested in attending, visit www.nucaofwashington.com/digsafe.



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 I plan to dig a number of small holes in a larger area, do I need to outline each hole location in white? Sometimes I'm not sure exactly where I will be digging.

A: Not necessarily. If your dig sites are within a reasonable area, it may be easier to mark the larger site rather than pinpoint each potential hole. Keep in mind, if the area you call in is larger than 700 linear feet, it will be your responsibility to contact each affected utility to work out an agreeable marking schedule ([RCW 19.122.030\(2\)](#)).

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

8/11 Day

Planning an event for 8/11 Day? If so, let us know! Contact [Anna Gill](#) and we'll share the news and help spread the word.

