



Call Before You Dig— It's the Law!

Why should I call before I dig?

It's the law. Many utility lines for gas, power, and telephone are buried underground, and anyone digging must have the underground lines located and marked to prevent damage. If you do not make the call before starting work, you may be subject to monetary penalties and be liable for any damages.

The “Call Before You Dig” law, [RCW 19.122](#), requires anyone performing any digging to call the 811 locator service to have underground utilities located at least two business days before digging.

How do I request a locate?

Dial 811 or 800-424-5555 or visit www.callbeforeyoudig.org. This will alert utility companies in your area to mark their lines for you.

What information do I need to call?

You need to provide the address where the work is located; whether the area is outlined with white paint; a description of the work being done; the area where the utility lines need to be located; the township section, range; and the date work will take place.

What happens after I call?

You will be given a tracking number for your request. Keep this number. The call center will identify companies with lines impacted by your work. You will be notified if the lines will not be marked within two days of the date your work would begin.

What if I have a problem getting my utilities located?

If you have issues with your locate — if the locate doesn't happen or is late, inadequate, or inaccurate — call the UTC toll free at 888-333-WUTC (9882).



Consumer Protection
888-333-WUTC (9882)
consumer@utc.wa.gov

Damage Prevention
360-664-1118

PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
www.utc.wa.gov