



Don't Assume You Know What's Below

Protect yourself and those around you. Use GSOC this time and every time.

Whether you are a professional excavator or homeowner, in accordance with Minnesota State law, you must contact Gopher State One Call (GSOC) before breaking ground for any excavation. You may be simply installing a new mailbox, installing a fence, building a deck, or planting a tree, but whatever the project may be, contacting GSOC before starting your project may allow you to avoid costly damages to underground facilities.



Please note: Gopher State One Call is **NOT** responsible for contacting locators to paint or flag your **PRIVATE FACILITIES**. For more information, continue reading this brochure.



The GSOC Locate Request Process

When you have a project that requires digging, your first step is to contact Gopher State One Call. You can do this any time at gopherstateonecall.org or by calling 8-1-1 during business hours.

Submit free locate requests online at gopherstateonecall.org

Be Prepared

When you contact GSOC with a locate request, you will be asked a series of questions, including:

- What is your name, address, and phone number?
- What type of work will you be doing? (e.g. planting a tree or installing a fence)
- What is the dig site's address, city, county and nearest intersecting street?
- At the dig site, where will you be digging? (e.g. east side of house, within 5-ft radius of white stake.)
- When will you be digging? (e.g. 3 days, next week)

Get Your Underground Facilities Marked

Once you have submitted your locate request, a "ticket" is created. The ticket is sent to any facility operators that may have underground facilities in the area of excavation. Those facility operators will then send a locator to the site and mark with a combination of flags, stakes, whiskers, and paint markings. Please note that no private facilities are marked as part of the GSOC locate request process.

Check for Positive Response

Before digging, check Gopher State One Call's Positive Response system to determine if each facility operator has visited your dig site and/or responded to your locate request.

To view the positive response status on any ticket, go to gopherstateonecall.org and click "SEARCH FOR A TICKET (SEARCH & STATUS)."

Dig!

In accordance with Minnesota law, you must wait 48 hours (excluding the day of submission, weekends and holidays) after you've submitted your locate request to begin your digging project.



Things to Keep in Mind

Outline the Dig Area

Before you contact GSOC, you must outline your dig area with white markings. This helps the locator know exactly where you will be digging. Some good examples of white marking tools include white paint, flags, laths, or stakes.

Wait for Locates

After contacting GSOC, you must wait. Utilities have 48 hours (excluding the day of submission, weekends and holidays) to locate their facilities. The 48-hour waiting period begins at 12:01 a.m. on the day after the locate request is submitted. This means if you file a request on Tuesday, you can begin digging no earlier than 12:01 a.m. on Friday.



SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.

811 or 651-454-0002

CONTACT GSOC BEFORE YOU DIG



LEARN MORE & SUBMIT
LOCATE REQUESTS
ONLINE AT
gopherstateonecall.org

Did You Know?

Not Everything Gets Marked When You Contact GSOC



Private underground facilities, such as private utility lines and private distribution networks, **do not get marked by facility operators**. When a property owner or tenant has any type of private underground facility, they are responsible to have private facilities located by hiring a private locator.

Private lines usually include any that serve outbuildings, hot tubs, security lighting, pools, and natural gas grills.

Homeowners: Tell contractors about any private underground lines you know of.

The free locating service available through GSOC applies **ONLY** to public facility operators. The diagram below shows a variety of utilities, some owned by the utility and some by the property owner.

THOSE UTILITIES MARKED BY DOTTED LINES ARE TYPICALLY OWNED BY THE PROPERTY OWNER. Private locating services will mark these for a fee. Those lines will NOT be marked by contacting GSOC.

Don't Forget

After calling GSOC, wait 48 hours (excluding the day of submission, weekends and holidays) before you begin your excavation, and remember to check for facility operator responses using GSOC's Positive Response system. **To view the positive response status on any ticket, go to gopherstateonecall.org and click "SEARCH FOR A TICKET (SEARCH & STATUS)."**

- Electric
- Gas, Oil and Propane
- Phone and Cable
- Water
- Sewer

If private facilities are suspected, the excavator should:

- Physically inspect the dig site
- Ask the property owner
- See what equipment or power may serve outbuildings
- Contact the original installer of the facilities for any maps of the lines
- Excavate with caution and be aware of any warning signs of underground facilities
- Visit gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory for information on private locating companies

If you are installing private facilities, consider doing the following:

- Prepare maps of any new underground facilities
- Bury tracer wire with the new facilities
- Use above ground markers or signs to indicate the buried facilities
- Visit gopherstateonecall.org/ticketing for more information about protecting private facilities



Contact information for some locating companies who will locate privately owned underground facilities can be found in the industry directory at gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory.

Respect the Marks!

Once the utilities have been located, you'll see a combination of flags, stakes, whiskers, and paint markings on the ground. Respect the marks! Never use mechanized digging tools when you are digging within 24 inches of the markings. Only use hand tools.

LEARN MORE AND SUBMIT FREE LOCATE REQUESTS AT gopherstateonecall.org.

WHITE	Area of Proposed Excavation
PINK	Temporary Survey Markings
RED	Electric
YELLOW	Gas, Oil, Steam, Propane
ORANGE	Communication, CATV, Fiber
BLUE	Water
PURPLE	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation
GREEN	Sewer

Tolerance Zone

