

UTILITY LOCATOR

Objective:

This session provides an exposure to the responsibilities of utility owners, and those who wish to dig into the ground, on how to protect underground pipes and cables. Exposure to the symbols, colors, and procedures I also included in this session. (4 hours)

I. Dangers and Legal Requirements

A. Virginia Underground Utility Prevention Act (the “Miss Utility” law) - Website VA811.com

B. Requirements

1. Excavators

a) Privately owned utilities - Quiz

2. Operators

a) Utility operators maintain the underground pipes and wires that serve your home.

3. Miss Utility

a) Is the notification process governed by the “Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act” in the state of Virginia

4. State Corporation Commission

C. Liabilities and Penalties

1. Excavator

2. Operators

D. General Provisions

1. A balance sheet item representing funds set aside by a company to pay for losses that are anticipated to occur in the future. The actual losses for the earmarked funds have not yet occurred, but the general provisions account is counted as an asset on the balance sheet.

II. Marking and Locating Utilities

A. Determining Who and When to call

- a) 811*
- b) 1-800-552-7001*
- c) sat.va811.com*
- d) 48-hours before dig begins - 3 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays)*
- e) I hired a contractor. Should I still call 811? It is the contractor's responsibility to call before digging. Be insistent on this because you are the one who will be endangered or inconvenienced if your contractor hits a utility.*

B. Type of Calls

- 1. 48-hour notice**
- 2. Emergency**
- 3. Re-Marking**
- 4. Appointment**

C. Color Codes

D. Symbols

E. Proper Utility Locating

- 1. 2' either side of the mark**
- 2. Protects you, co-workers, the public around you and the Utility**

F. Ticket Life

G. Ticket Information Exchange

H. Handout-Professional Excavator's Manual

III. Review

A. Questions and Answers

B. Written Test

IV. Demonstration of utility Locating Equipment

A. Locator

B. Paint and Flag

C. Manifest/Pictures