

Facility owners are required to respond to all locate requests. Individual facility owners will review the locate request to determine if they have any underground facility lines near your work site. In a day or two, each utility company with underground lines will send a professional locator to your work site to mark the approximate location of buried utilities with colored paint, flags, or chalk. Facility owner locators use standard color codes to indicate the type of underground lines.

On the morning of the excavation, you will receive an email that details what each utility company did to mark the location of their underground lines if you have provided an email address when you contacted Pennsylvania 811.

- MARKED means you should see colored paint, flags, or chalk near the excavation site
- CLEAR means the utility company does not have underground lines near the excavation site

Please be aware that the utility companies may not mark customer owned lines, such as service lines, lighting, pool connections, barbecue areas, or invisible fences.

All work should avoid damage to or minimize interference with underground facilities in the proposed excavation area. Be watchful for possible removal and tampering of marks. This can occur unintentionally as a result of things such as lawn mowing, normal street maintenance, activities of children playing in the neighborhood, or the weather. Avoid piling brush or spoilage on the markings.

You are responsible for the marks once the locator has left your proposed work site. If you suspect the markings have been compromised or eliminated, you should contact 811 to request the facilities to be marked again.



If you have any questions regarding the building and construction permitting process, please contact your local Permits Clerk.

For questions about the Pennsylvania 811 underground notification process, please contact the local Damage Prevention Liaison for your county – [www.pa1call.org](http://www.pa1call.org)

### Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. dba Pennsylvania 811

*Our purpose is to prevent damage to underground facilities. To promote safety, we provide an efficient and effective communications network among project owners, designers, excavators, and facility owners.*



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

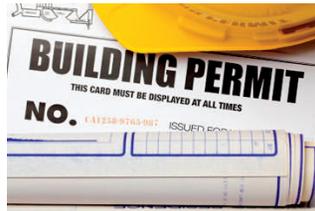
| 800-242-1776 |

## HOMEOWNER OR CONTRACTOR

**STARTING AN EXCAVATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT?**



**DID YOU APPLY FOR AND GET A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT?**



**DID YOU CONTACT 8-1-1 BEFORE EXCAVATING?**



**NO? THEN...**



If you are a homeowner or a contractor doing one of the following construction activities that may require underground excavation, i.e.,

- Installing or modifying a pool, fence, porch, or deck
- Replacing or the relocation of any water supply, sewer, drainage, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping
- Installing or modifying a sidewalk or driveway
- Constructing or altering a structure
- Constructing an addition to an existing structure
- Demolishing or moving a structure
- Underground excavation
- Install or alter any equipment which is regulated by the building code

Then you are obligated to check with your local municipality to see if you need a construction permit.

In Pennsylvania, if you are doing any of the activities above, most municipalities will require you to apply for a Construction Permit. Construction Permits ensure that any construction meets the PA Uniform Construction Codes. All applicable construction codes can be found at:

<https://www.dli.pa.gov/ucc/Pages/default.aspx>

These codes provide the minimum standards to safeguard persons, protect property and promote the general welfare for the citizens of the municipality.

Either a homeowner or a contractor can apply for a Construction Permit.

However, if a homeowner is hiring someone to do general excavation construction, it is recommended that the homeowner hires a contractor, possessing an appropriate contractor's license, to excavate and restore sidewalk and/or roadway pavement within the public rights of way.

In addition to having to get a general construction permit, you may also have to obtain permits specific to various activities, i.e. plumbing and electrical work. Permit fees vary among municipalities.

If your construction project involves any type of underground excavation (digging), to protect you, the public and the underground facilities, you must contact 8-1-1 Before You Dig.

Remember, what you can't see can hurt you. Virtually anywhere you need to dig, there is probably a network of underground telecommunications cables, power lines, gas lines, water lines, and sewer lines somewhere in the vicinity.

The person or company that is physically doing the underground excavation is the person that must contact 8-1-1. This can be done via telephone or via the internet at [www.pa1call.org](http://www.pa1call.org).

Before calling 8-1-1, you or the contractor doing the work should know exactly where you will be digging. The professional locators who will visit your residential property do not. The best way to communicate with them is to mark your proposed work site with white paint, flags or chalk, and to prepare before contacting Pennsylvania 811.

Here is some of the information you must provide the Pennsylvania 811 Customer Service Representative:

- Contact information including contact name, telephone number, and email address
- County, municipality and ward number
- Street number and street name
- Nearest intersection to your property and a second intersection or nearest road
- Location information, i.e. subdivision, latitude or longitude coordinates (if available)
- Type of work being done, extent and method of excavation
- Proposed excavation date and time

You must submit the locate request three to ten **business** days before you excavate (dig). Business day means any day except a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. A business day begins at 12:00:00 am and ends at 11:59:59 pm. It is very important not to begin work prior to the lawful start dates provide by the 8-1-1 Center.