

Dig Safely With Proper Notification

"Call Before You Dig!" is a free service that can prevent dangerous and costly accidents by helping you stay clear of underground utilities.

Klickitat PUD customers are encouraged to use this service whether they are planning a major construction project or just landscaping their yard.

Call 811 or (800) 424-5555 at least 48 hours before digging or excavating.

If you are a professional excavator, you can visit www.callbeforeyoudig.org and enter your locate requests online. This service is available 24 hours a day. There also is an e-mail form for homeowners to submit that will allow them to enter locate requests online.

When calling, be prepared to give the following information:

- Your name and phone number.
- The site location where you plan to dig. A street address and specific directions help. So does marking the site with white spray paint so utilities know exactly where you will dig.
- The type of work you plan.
- The date you plan to begin.

The service will contact all of the appropriate utilities in Klickitat County for you, including Klickitat PUD. All utility representatives will respond and mark the locations of your underground utilities.

At Klickitat PUD, Bernie Predeek, Tim Garrigus and Dan Charters respond to requests from the notification center and mark the underground power lines, cables or conduits, and lighting cables with red spray paint.

If you live in a community where KPUD provides water or wastewater services, such as Glenwood, Klickitat or Lyle, a KPUD water-wastewater crew member will respond and mark the water or sewer lines. Water is marked in blue. Sewer and drain lines



For any project that requires excavation, such as planting a tree, laying underground irrigation or building a fence, call the utility notification center at least two business days before you dig.

are marked in green.

This will eliminate digging equipment from hitting or cutting off power, water, phone, cable, sewer or gas lines. Within 2 feet of the spray paint marks, take special care and dig by hand. Contact with any of these lines can result in serious injury.

"Any time you disturb the earth, you run the risk of accidentally digging into underground power lines, sewer and water mains, cable TV lines or other services," says PUD Engineering Assistant Mike Blumenstein. "When you want to get started on a project, it can be a nuisance to wait for two working days while utilities mark their services. But those two days can save your life."

Each year, KPUD receives more than 1,200 service location requests, or almost five for each work day. This service is dedicated to safeguarding citizens and construction personnel who work around utilities, as well as safeguarding the underground infrastructure of your community.

Calling before beginning any excavation prevents damage to underground facilities, service interruptions and bodily injury.

Work safely this season. Remember to call before you dig. ■



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