

**REQUESTS FOR LOCATES WITHIN A CITY  
REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**









- A street address or block and lot numbers, or both, of the proposed area of excavation.
- The name and address of the excavator.
- The excavator's telephone number.
- The type and extent of the proposed excavation.
- Whether the discharge of explosives is anticipated.
- The date and time when excavation is scheduled to begin.
- Approximate location of the excavation on the property.
- If known, the name of the housing development and property owner.

**REQUESTS FOR LOCATES OUTSIDE A CITY  
REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- The name of the county, township, range and section.
- The name and address of the excavator.
- The excavator's telephone number.
- The type and extent of the proposed excavation.
- Whether the discharge of explosives is anticipated.
- The date and time when excavation is scheduled to begin.
- Approximate location of the excavation on the property.
- If known, the quarter section, #911 address and global positioning system coordinate, name of property owner, name of housing development with street address or block and lot numbers, or both.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[WWW.IOWAONECALL.COM](http://WWW.IOWAONECALL.COM)**

**APWA UNIFORM COLOR CODE  
FOR MARKING  
UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES**

	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLES OR CONDUIT
	POTABLE WATER
	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
	SEWERS AND DRAIN LINES



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

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**Protect What  
Really Matters:**

*A Guide for  
Homeowners*



**CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG**

*“IT’S FAST.*

*IT’S FREE.*

*IT’S THE LAW.”*

## When to Use Iowa One Call

Anytime you plan to excavate. This includes:

- » Putting up a fence or clothes line.
- » Pounding stakes or posts into the ground.
- » Planting trees or shrubs.
- » Building a patio, home addition, or deck.
- » Putting in a new driveway.
- » Terracing or landscaping.
- » Installing a septic system or water drainage system.
- » While normal residential gardening activities **do not** require prior notification, it’s still a good idea to notify Iowa One Call before installing new gardens or using power equipment such as garden tillers.

## Reasons NOT to Call Iowa One Call

Iowa One Call should NOT be contacted for any of the following reasons:

- » To report any type of service outage due to weather conditions.
- » To resolve any type of utility billing problem.
- » To report any excavation outside of Iowa.
- » To request any type of utility removal or relocation.
- » To request initiation of any type of utility service.
- » To provide maps, plans or drawings of the proposed excavation.

*Each year excavation-related damage to underground facilities puts families and communities at serious risk. Protect what really matters—CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!*

## How Iowa One Call Works

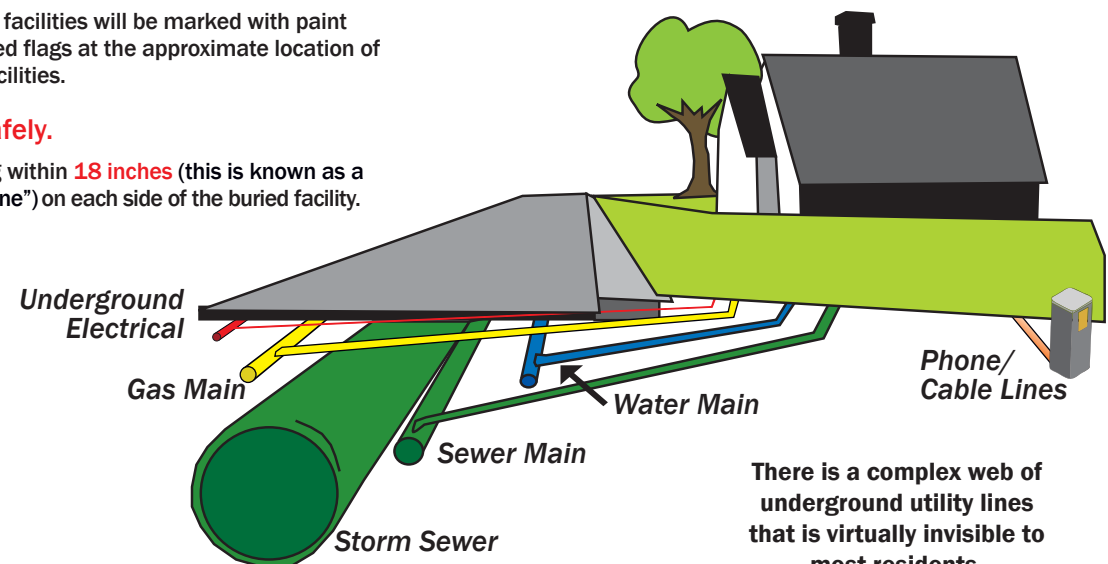
- 1. You call us at least 48 hours (excluding weekends and legal holidays) before any excavation.**
  - » The person actually performing the excavation must make the call, whether that person is the homeowner, a contractor or professional excavator.
  - » Marking the proposed dig site with white paint (“White Lining”) will help reduce any confusion as to where the excavation will occur.
  - » Iowa One Call is a **FREE** service!
- 2. We notify underground facility operators.**
  - » Not all buried facilities are registered with Iowa One Call.
  - » Private facilities, such as LP gas lines, sprinkler systems, gas grill lines, invisible dog fences and any buried cables, wires or plumbing installed by the current or previous homeowners, will not be located or marked.
- 3. The underground facility operators mark lines.**
  - » Underground facilities will be marked with paint and/or colored flags at the approximate location of the buried facilities.
- 4. You dig safely.**
  - » Avoid digging within **18 inches** (this is known as a “Tolerance Zone”) on each side of the buried facility.

## The Hazards and Liabilities of NOT Using Iowa One Call

Iowa law requires all Iowans to call Iowa One Call with the pertinent information at least 48 hours prior to excavation (excluding weekends and legal holidays). The consequences of excavating without requesting an underground facility locate could be catastrophic, or at the very least, expensive.

Penalties and liabilities incurred as a result of not calling could be huge, due to increasingly high-tech buried facilities such as fiber optic cable. Gas lines can be lethal if broken, and can explode further down the line at a neighboring home or business. If telephone lines are cut, entire communities may lose access to 911 emergency services.

Simply calling Iowa One Call, however, does not relieve an excavator of these liabilities. Excavators need to take precautions and dig safely to avoid damaging buried facilities.



There is a complex web of underground utility lines that is virtually invisible to most residents.