



Locating Your Water Service Line

Homeowners frequently ask how to locate their water service line. The PUD owns and maintains the water mains in the street and the water lines from the main to the meter. The meter is usually located in the utility’s easement or right-of-way near the street. The builder/homeowner is responsible for the water lines between the meter to the home. **The PUD does not enter private property to maintain or repair water lines because these are installed and owned by the builder/homeowner.**

Whenever the PUD needs to do excavation work, staff calls the “811” utilities underground location service (commonly referred to as Dial-Dig). This is a private company that will call all the other utilities in the area (electric, natural gas, telephone, and cable). The other utilities will visit the address identified and locate/mark their underground lines. This procedure enables the PUD to do its excavations without damaging someone’s service line.

This 811 service is available without charge to anyone who is doing excavation work and is required by law (RCW 19.122) for **any** digging project. **The phone number is 811.** For more information, visit the web-site at www.washington811.com. You need to provide at least 48 hours’ notice prior to digging. If you require locates sooner than 48 hours, you may be charged for this expedited service. If you accidentally dig into a utility line, not only do you risk injury (especially if it’s a power line), you are also responsible for the cost of all repairs.

If you notice multi-colored marks in the easement area near your property, you can expect there will be some kind of improvement or repair scheduled by a utility. Each utility uses a different color paint when they are locating. See the Uniform Color Code below to identify each utility marking.

White	Proposed Excavation
Pink	Temporary Survey Markings
Red	Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit, and Lighting Cables
Yellow	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum, or Gaseous Materials
Orange	Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables, or Conduit
Blue	Potable Water
Purple	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation, and Slurry Lines
Green	Sewers and Drain Lines

Washington811 recommendations:

- + Mark your dig area in white paint.
- + Call 811 two business days before you dig. The day you call doesn’t count.
- + Do not dig until all known utilities are marked.
- + Maintain your marks.
- + Determine the precise location of the marked utilities by hand digging.
- + Use hand tools when digging within 24 inches of either side of the marks.