Excavation Practices Task Team Report June 30, 1999



The Challenge

• To identify & describe preventative & safe practices for the construction & maintenance of, and around, underground facilities to prevent damages



The Goal

• To encourage partnerships between the facility owners, excavators, one-call centers, locators & project restoration/completion, with the goal of fostering safe excavation practices



Team Composition - 20 Members

- Excavators
- Pipeline Operators
- Contractors
- Cable Television
- Railroads

- State Governments
- Federal Government
- Telecommunications
- One Call Centers



Best Practices

28 Best Practices in 4 main categories:

- Project Preparation
- On-Site Preparation/Ground Breaking
- Ongoing Excavation
- Project Completion



Project Preparation

- One-Call Facility Requests
- White Lining
- Locate Reference Numbers
- Pre-excavation Meeting



Project Preparation

- Facility Relocations
- Separate Location Requests
- One-Call Access (24x7)
- Positive Response



On-Site Preparation/Ground Breaking

- Facility Owner Failure to Respond
- Locate Verification
- Excavator Documentation
- Work Site Review with Company Personnel



On-Site Preparation/Ground Breaking

- One-Call Reference Number at Excavation Site
- Contact Names & Numbers
- Facility Avoidance



Ongoing Excavation

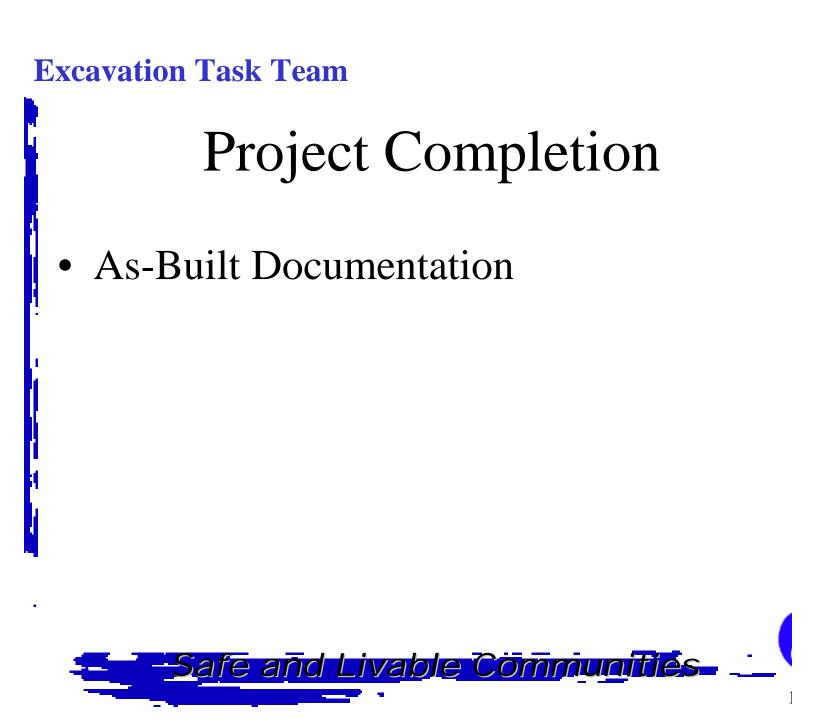
- Federal & State Regulations
- Marking Preservation
- Excavation Observer
- Excavation Tolerance Zone
- Mis-marked Facilities



Ongoing Excavation, cont.

- Exposed Facility Protection
- Locate Request Updates
- Facility Damage Notification
- Notification of Emergency Personnel
- Emergency Excavation
- Backfilling





Lessons Learned

- Everyone involved with excavation can agree on the best way to excavate around underground facilities to achieve:
 - Safe working conditions for employees;
 - Protection of underground facility integrity; and
 - Effective documentation & notification procedures.

Safe and Livable Communities

Lessons Learned, cont.

- Implementation of Best Practices by any individual, company, or other excavating organization would greatly reduce:
 - Damages to underground facilities;
 - Injuries to excavating personnel;
 - Injuries to the public at large; and
 - Damage to private & public property.

Safe and Livable Communities

Path Forward

• Continue to meet as a team to review, update, or add Best Practices



Excavation Practices Task Team Report June 30, 1999

