

Mapping Task Team Report

June 30, 1999

Safe and Livable Communities

Mapping Task Team

The Challenge

- To identify & describe practices used to graphically indicate the location of subsurface utilities as they relate to the surface of the earth

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Team Composition 12 Members

- One Call Centers
- Pipeline Operators
- State Government
- Contractors
- Locators
- Railroads
- Federal Government
- Telecommunications

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Best Practices

- Team focused on mapping issues involving:
 - One-Call Centers
 - Locators
 - Facility Owners
 - Project Owners
 - Excavators

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Best Practices: One-Call Centers

- Use an electronic mapping system that:
 - Contains the most precise geographic data available to the center;
 - Produces a ticket for the smallest practical geographic area;
 - Accepts data in a variety of formats with minimal human intervention;
 - Is promptly updated as data are provided;

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Best Practices: One-Call Centers, cont.

- Is publicly available to identify excavation areas;
- Produces Lat/Long data from other data formats & can determine street addresses, roads, intersections, or mile posts from Lat/Long data; and
- Can keep the land base updated, including a process to add new street data, etc.

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Best Practices: Locators

- Should be trained in map reading & symbology
- Should provide the facility owner with precise location data obtained from a locate
- Should provide feedback to one-call centers on land base mapping & location discrepancies

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Best Practices: Facility Owner

- Give one-call centers enough data to allow proper notice of excavation activities
- Provide access to mapping system usable both the locator & the facility owner
- Require designers to adhere to facility owner mapping standards

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Best Practices: Facility Owners

- Provide consistent, current data to the one- call center for proper receipt of ticket notice, including Lat/Long tied to a physical attribute
- Capture in an electronic database:
 - New construction at the time of installation
 - Location of abandoned or sold facilities

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Best Practices: Facility Owners, cont.

- Engineering station & milepost/marker location including Lat/Long & the alignment of utility each running line change or PI
- Bridges, culverts, rivers, road crossings, etc.
- Small scale map showing the overall utility route
- Number of utility lines or conduits owned by the facility owner in the corridor or the size of the duct package/bank

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Best Practices: Project Owners

- Should provide the excavator with accurate location data on the proposed excavation area
- Should determine a starting point, end point & which side of the property/street the excavation area is located

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Best Practices: Excavators

- Should provide comprehensive, accurate location data to one-call centers, including address, intersection, legal description & Lat/Long if feasible
- Should provide a starting point, end point & which side of the property/street the excavation area is located

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