



Use of Qualified Contractors

Qualified contractors are used to excavate on or near underground facilities.

Mandatory Pre-Bid Conferences

A mandatory pre-bid conference is held, and bids are only accepted from attending contractors.

Continuous Interface Between the Designer and Potential Contractors During Pre-Bid/Bid Phase

Once a project design is completed, the designer participates in the pre-bid/bid process.

Continuous Interface Between the Designer and the Contractor During the Construction Phase

The designer continues to interface with the selected contractor throughout the construction phase.

As-Built Drawings

As-built drawings are prepared and the information recorded to aid future excavations and locates.



For More Information:
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Web site: www.commongroundalliance.com



Call, Design, Locate, and Dig Safely

**Planning
and
Design**

**UNDERGROUND FACILITIES
DAMAGE PREVENTION**

BEST PRACTICES

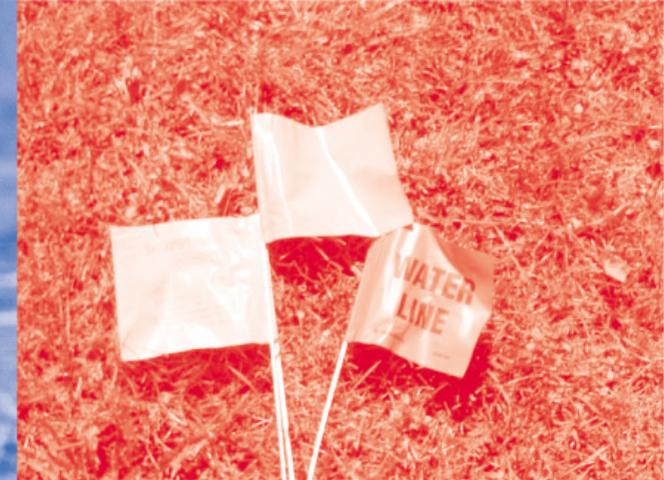
Planning & Design

BEST PRACTICES

Whether you are a facility owner or operator, locator, design professional, one-call center employee, excavator, contractor, or other stakeholder, ensuring the safety of those who work or live in the vicinity of underground facilities and protecting vital services is everyone's responsibility.

The Common Ground Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to shared responsibility in damage prevention. The purpose of the CGA is to ensure public safety, environmental protection, and integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention best practices.

Care in the various aspects of the planning and design of underground facilities can reduce future damages. This brochure provides a brief review of the damage prevention best practices associated with Planning and Design of underground facilities. For more detailed information on all of the damage prevention best practices, please visit the Common Ground Alliance Web site at: www.commongroundalliance.com.



Plat Designation of Existing Underground Facility Easements

Plats involving development of real property include the designation of underground facility easements.

Gathering Information for Design Purposes

The designer uses all reasonable means of obtaining information about underground facilities in the area of the planned excavation.

Identifying Existing Facilities in Planning and Design

Designers indicate existing underground facilities on drawings during planning and design.

Markers for Underground Facilities

The presence and type of underground facilities are indicated by permanent above and below ground markers and material.

Follow All Applicable Codes, Statutes, and Facility Owner/Operator Standards

When planning and designing the installation of new or replacements of existing underground facilities, the designer follows all Federal, State, and local guidelines, codes, statutes, and other facility owner/operator standards.