

EXCAVATION & BACKFILLING

Several steps must be followed for proper excavation and backfilling.

- Make sure a call has been made to 811, and all utilities are located.
- Secure the area of by use of barricades, signage, fencing, etc.
- Always keep a fire extinguisher on the job site for fires other than gas fed.
- Do not extinguish a natural gas fed fire, burning gas does not explode.
- Excavate only as much as needed and have Gas Department personnel on site when crossing gas lines.
- Keep dirt and debris away from edges of excavation to avoid possible cave-ins and tripping hazards.
- Hand-dig within 2' around utilities, pothole as required.
- Keep required separation from other utilities.
- If ditch or trench is 4' deep or more, shoring or sloping may be required.
- Provide proper support for exposed utilities during excavation and backfilling.
- Prior to backfilling, make sure that all newly installed & other town utilities exposed during excavation have been inspected by qualified town personnel.
- Compact backfilled area according to requirements. Provide pipe support to avoid possible future stress.
- Backfill using material that will not damage any existing or newly installed facilities.
- Leave excavation area well-groomed.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

A number of different emergencies can arise during excavation and backfilling. Response may vary depending on the circumstances of the emergency, but good judgment should always be used. The priority is to protect life first, then property during an emergency. DO NOT ATTEMPT A REPAIR BEFORE CONTACTING TOWN PERSONNEL.

For a Emergency Response from any of the Town of Rangely Utility Departments, call one of the phone numbers below. Someone is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Town Hall— (970)675-8476

Police Dept.—(970)675-8466

In an Emergency Call:

Emergency 9-1-1

Listed below are several important steps to follow in an emergency.

- Shut-off any equipment or power tools.
- If the emergency involves natural gas, evacuate the area immediately.
- Report even minor damage such as dents, scrapes or chips. This could lead to pipe-line failure. Do not cover the line.
- Report incident by calling Town Hall, Police Dept. or 9-1-1.
- Keep all people and vehicles from entering area.

TOWN OF RANGELY

Utilities Excavation & Backfilling Guidelines

Emergency Response



DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM Gas.. Water.. Sewer

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Damage Prevention Program is to protect life and property by minimizing damage to the Town of Rangely Utilities and to provide safety guidelines to the public and contractors engaged in Excavation & Backfilling Activities. Some examples would be, excavation, blasting, boring, tunneling, backfilling, directional drilling, the removal or addition of structures or trees, post hole drilling, and other earth-moving operations.

This brochure is a simple guideline and not meant to cover all requirements for each department.

Call Before You Dig

Utility damage occurs most often when third parties unknowingly dig, blast or drill in an area where a utility exists. The best way to avoid utility damage is to call the NEW NATIONAL 811 NUMBER. UNCC One-Call Notification Center continues to operate. This service is free of charge and is required by law. Fines and restrictions may result if a utility is damaged and a call was not made to a one call center. A call for the purpose of locating facilities in an area must be made three business days in advance of any digging or excavation. You must wait the required time before you dig. Pre-mark the excavation area with white paint.



**NATIONAL ONE CALL
811 OR
Utility Notification Center of
Colorado
1-800-922-1987**

**Town of Rangely
Contact Numbers
Town Hall—(970)675-8476
Police Dept.—(970)675-8466
Emergency 9-1-1**

You may contact Town Hall or any of the individual departments with any questions.

CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY

- As a contractor it is your responsibility to assign only trained and qualified employees to construction sites.
- Contractors must hold safety meetings for employees and review the Excavation, Backfilling and Emergency Response Procedures. An individual I.D. card showing proof of training must be presented if requested by a Town employee.
- The Town may require a dig permit and/or a pre-construction meeting depending on the scope of the project.
- If any plan changes are made be sure they are coordinated with all parties involved.

For Additional Information go to www.ExcavationSafetyGuide.com

Utilities use a Uniform Color Code for marking facilities. Below are the Town's utilities and their colors.

Gas—Yellow

Water—Blue

Sewer—Green

JOB-SITE PROTECTION & SAFETY

Safety precautions must be taken during excavation and backfilling. Have an Emergency Plan in Place.

Suitable personal protective equipment is necessary. This may include hard hats, orange or yellow vests, eye protection, gloves, and proper footwear. Check OSHA requirements prior to excavation.

Work area protection must be considered before, during and after excavation. Employees and the general public must be protected from vehicular traffic and work hazards. Have a work zone plan in place.

Any road closures must be relayed to the Police department and they will notify the Fire Department, Ambulance Service, and the Bus Garage. Be sure to follow-up with re-opening of the road.

Warning signs, barricades and cones, etc. must be utilized to protect the work area. Lighted barricades must be used after sunset. Check state and local requirements before excavation. Keep in mind that cones or barricades may need to remain on the job site post excavation if area is left unfinished or unsafe to travel over temporarily, and advise the Town of Rangely staff.

