

WORKING WITHIN THE VICINITY OF CITY UTILITIES

LOCATION OF UTILITIES

- In accordance with WorkSafeBC regulations, the Contractor/Homeowner is responsible for locating all utilities in the area prior to starting to excavate, dig, or drill.
- The City expects the Contractor/Homeowner to place a BC One Call and a DigShaw Call a minimum of 3 business days prior to commencing work.
 - BC One Call: 1-800-474-6886 or bconecall.ca
 - DigShaw: 1-866-344-7429 or digshaw.ca
- Work is not permitted to begin until responses have been received from all parties involved.



GENERAL DANGERS WITH RESPECT TO CITY UTILITIES

- **Watermains and Watermain Distribution Systems**
 - High pressure systems present life safety hazards including but not limited to launched projectiles, eroding excavation walls, causing sinkholes and trapping workers. Watermains may also be made of a material whose dust is hazardous when cut with a saw/drill. In addition, an unplanned watermain shutdown due to a strike results in large areas of the public being without water for extended periods of time.
- **Sanitary & Storm Mains and Sewer Water**
 - Direct contact with sewer water poses a health hazard and sewers may also produce noxious gases such as H₂S. The mains may be made of a material whose dust is hazardous when cut with a saw/drill.
- **Underground Electrical Lines**
 - Striking a live electrical line may cause electrocution.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE FOR EXCAVATION AND WORK AROUND CITY UTILITIES

- City utilities are generally 2.5m to 2.7m (8ft to 9ft) deep, but may be found as shallow as 1.2m (4 ft) or as deep as 4.2m (14 ft).
- Adhere to WorkSafeBC regulations regarding excavation safety
- First attempt to locate the pipes using the information provided from the BC One Call and/or non-mechanical methods.
- Mechanical digging may be used to get within 1m (3 ft) of the expected location of the pipes.
- Non-mechanical or hand digging must then be used to expose and prove the location of the pipes.
- Mechanical digging may be used again up to 0.3m (1 ft) from the pipes.
- Non-mechanical or hand digging must be used within 0.3m (1 ft) from the pipes.
- Once exposed, the pipes must be supported and protected to prevent sagging or damage.
- Backfill must consist of bedding sand surrounding the pipe, followed by native material free from debris, ice, organics or any deleterious material. Backfill within a roadway or under curb, gutter or sidewalk must be fillcrete as per the Traffic Bylaw No. 4289, 2016.

DISCLAIMER

The City of Dawson Creek does not guarantee the location of underground utilities as shown on the drawings provided and does not accept any responsibility for errors or omissions. The information provided is the most accurate information the City has available. The exact location of all utilities must be proven prior to excavating. Other utilities may be in the area including but not limited to TELUS, BC Hydro, Shaw, PNG or other gas company pipelines and SD59 or ROHL Fibre Optics. Please consult with the respective utility owners for safe procedures to work within the vicinity of their utilities.

If any utilities become damaged, **STOP** work immediately report it to BC One Call at 1-800-474-6886 and the City at 250-784-3600.

PLEASE DIG CAREFULLY AND SAFELY!