

To Whom It May Concern:






This letter is in response to your questions concerning underground facility marks.

On behalf of the AZLRP (Arizona Locate Resolution Partnership) we would like to share with you the reason for the markings and the important safety role they play as well as the efforts being made to keep the markings to a minimum in neighborhoods and on paved surfaces.

Damage to underground facilities can cause far-reaching consequences, from serious injury and environmental damage to the loss of vital services we depend upon every day. Preventing damage to these facilities is a responsibility shared by all parties involved and is accomplished through various damage prevention measures.

At the heart of any damage prevention program is the exchange of accurate and consistent information between those who are excavating and operators of underground facilities. Locating and marking the location of underground facilities using paint is one way operators show the approximate location of their facilities in advance of an excavation. This information helps the excavators to safely excavate around underground facilities and to avoid hitting and disrupting services.

Communication begins when any excavator contacts ARIZONA 811: the one call notification center. ARIZONA 811 creates a ticket that is distributed to facility/utility owners and operators informing them of proposed excavation. Locators from each utility respond to each request within two full working days. If the area described on the ticket is within an area where an underground facility exists, the underground facility owners/operators are required by ARIZONA REVISED STATUTE Title 40 to mark their facilities within the prescribed boundaries of the area requested with an APWA designated color.

| COLOR CODE FOR MARKING UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES CÓDIGO DE COLOR PARA SEÑALIZACIÓN DE LÍNEAS SUBTERRÁNEAS DE SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS | |
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|  | PROPOSED EXCAVATION EXCAVACIÓN PROPUESTA |
|  | TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS SEÑALIZACIÓN TEMPORAL PARA ESTUDIOS |
|  | ELECTRIC POWER ENERGÍA ELÉCTRICA |
|  | GAS-OIL- PRODUCT LINES LÍNEAS DE PRODUCTOS - PETRÓLEO - GAS |
|  | COMMUNICATION CABLE TELEVISION COMUNICACIÓN TELEVISIÓN POR CABLE |
|  | WATER SYSTEMS • SLURRY PIPELINES SISTEMA DE AGUA • TUBERÍAS DE LODO |
|  | RECLAIMED WATER AGUA RECUPERADA |
|  | SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM SISTEMA DE ALCANTARILLADO SANITARIO |

Locators make every effort to ensure that marks used to identify underground facilities are not excessive or oversized. A water-based marking paint is commonly used in an effort to provide marks that will clearly mark the underground utility and then fade over time. Locators are also trained to minimize impact to neighborhoods, front yards and landscaping by only applying enough paint to communicate the location of the facilities. Finally, ARIZONA 811 educates excavators around the state to use white paint to clearly designate their excavation site to further reduce the perceived impact of marking paint as graffiti.

What is important to understand is the role these marks play in protecting life and property. While every effort is made to reduce the impact, it is critical that the marks remain in a visible and valid state during the course of the excavation.

Respectfully,
Cheryl Butts, AZLRP Chairman

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