



## Don't Assume You Know What's Below

Protect yourself and those around you. Use GSOC this time and every time.

Whether you are a professional excavator or homeowner, in accordance with Minnesota State law, you must contact Gopher State One Call (GSOC) before starting any excavation project if you are using any machine-powered equipment of any kind, or explosives. You may be simply installing a new mail box or planting a tree. Whatever the project may be, contacting GSOC before starting your project may allow you to avoid costly damages to underground facilities.



**Please note:** Gopher State One Call is **NOT** responsible for contacting locators to paint or flag your **private facilities**. For more information, flip over this brochure.

## The One Call Process

When you have a project that requires digging, your first step is to contact Gopher State One Call. You can do this by using **GSOC's Homeowner Online Locate Request** system <http://www.gsocsubmit.org>

or by calling the **One Call Center at 811 or: 651-454-0002 or 800-252-1166**

### Be Prepared

When you contact GSOC with a locate request, a series of questions will be asked.

- What is your name, address and phone number?
- What type of work will you be doing? (e.g. planting a tree, installation of fence)
- What is the dig location's address, city, county and nearest intersecting street?
- At the dig location, where will you be digging? (e.g. east side of house, within 5-ft. radius of white stake.)
- When will you be digging? (i.e. 3 days, next week)

### Get Your Underground Facilities Marked

Once you have submitted your dig information, it is created as a ticket that is sent to any utilities that may have underground facilities in the area of excavation. Those utilities will send a locator to the site to either paint or flag the area in question.

### Check for Positive Response

A good practice before digging is to check **Gopher State One Call's Positive Response** site to determine if each utility company has visited your dig site or responded to your locate request.

<http://www.gsocsearch.org/>

### Dig

In accordance with Minnesota law, you must wait 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) after you've submitted your dig information to begin your digging project.



## Things to Keep in Mind

### Outline the Dig Area

Before you contact GSOC, you must outline your dig area with white markings. This helps the locator know exactly where you will be digging. Some good examples of white marking tools include white paint, flags, laths or stakes.

### Wait for Locates

After contacting GSOC, you must wait. Utilities have 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) to locate their facilities. That means if you plan to dig on Saturday, call on Wednesday or earlier.

# CONTACT US BEFORE YOU DIG



651-454-0002 or 800-252-1166  
[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)

Know what's below.  
Call **811** before you dig.

# Did You Know?

## Not Everything Gets Marked When You Call



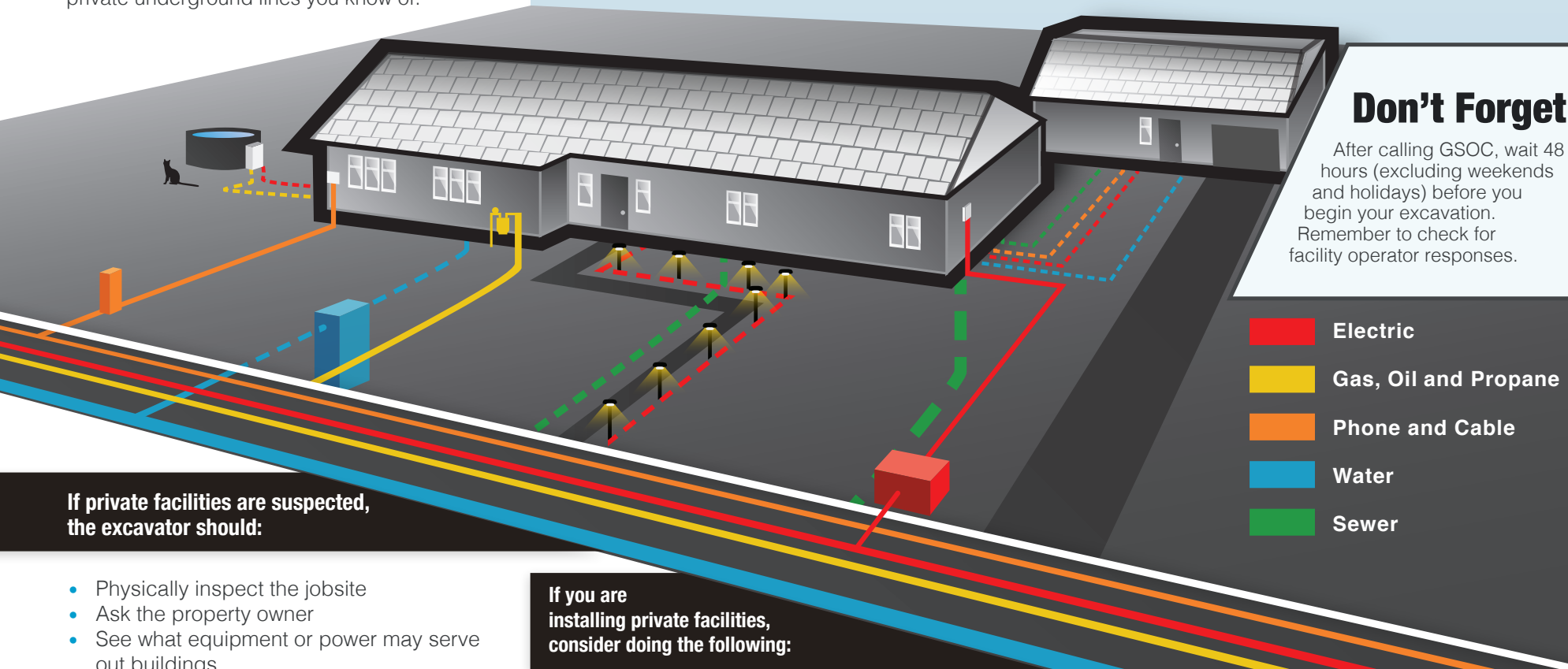
Private underground facilities, such as private utility lines and private distribution networks, do not get marked by facility operators. When a property owner or tenant has any type of private underground facility, they are responsible to locate those facilities, or hire someone to locate them, to reduce the risk of damage.

Customer-owned lines usually include any that serve outbuildings, hot tubs, security lighting, pools and natural gas grills.

The free locating service available through Gopher State One Call (GSOC) applies **only** to public facility operators. The diagram below shows a variety of utilities, some owned by the utility and some by the homeowner.

**Those utilities marked by dotted lines are typically owned by the property owner.** Private locating services will mark these for a fee. Those lines will NOT be marked by contacting GSOC.

**Homeowners:** Tell your excavator about any private underground lines you know of.



### Don't Forget

After calling GSOC, wait 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) before you begin your excavation. Remember to check for facility operator responses.

- Electric
- Gas, Oil and Propane
- Phone and Cable
- Water
- Sewer

### If private facilities are suspected, the excavator should:

- Physically inspect the jobsite
- Ask the property owner
- See what equipment or power may serve out buildings
- Contact the original installer of the facilities for any maps of the lines
- Excavate with caution and be aware of any warning signs of underground facilities
- Visit [gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory](http://gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory) for information on private locating companies

### If you are installing private facilities, consider doing the following:

- Prepare maps of any new underground facilities
- Bury tracer wire with the new facilities
- Use above-ground markers or signs to indicate the buried facilities



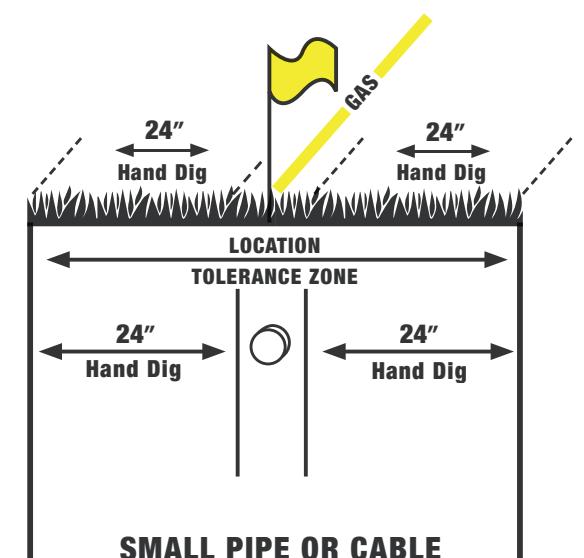
The contact information for a number of locating companies who will locate privately owned underground facilities on your property can be found in the industry directory at [gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory](http://gopherstateonecall.org/resources/industry-directory).

## Respect the Marks

Once the utilities have been located, you'll see a variety of paint markings or flags on the ground. Respect the marks. Never use mechanized digging tools when you are digging within 24 inches of the markings—only use hand tools.

WHITE	Area of Proposed Excavation
PINK	Temporary Survey Markings
RED	Electric
YELLOW	Gas, Oil, Steam, Propane
ORANGE	Communication, CATV, Fiber
BLUE	Water
PURPLE	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation
GREEN	Sewer

## Tolerance Zone



**SMALL PIPE OR CABLE**