

Workshop Discussion Questions

Questions to excavators:

- Have you experienced a project delay due to abandoned facilities? If so, what impacts did the delay have?
- Say you discover a facility that you did not know was there. Would you call for remarks or would you report a facility with an unknown operator?
 - What do you communicate on the ticket to operators?
 - How do you narrow down who could be the potential owner of an unmarked utility?
 - Have you ever had to request that every operator on a ticket return to the site to verify the ownership of the facility? What happened?
- Have you ever discovered a facility that is not claimed by any operator?
 - What process did you follow to come to that conclusion?
 - If conflicting with your work, how was the conflict resolved?
- Have you been notified of an abandoned facility by an "A" inside a circle in the delineated area and then had difficulty finding the exact location of that facility?
 - Did you need additional information from the operator to locate the facility?

Questions to facility locators

- How do you know if there are abandoned facilities in the delineated area to mark an "A" in a circle?
 - How often do you know the approximate location of that facility?
 - Do contract locators have access to the same information?
- According to data in the Common Ground Alliance Damage and Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) Report from 2020, the 3rd highest cause of dig-in damages nationwide was inaccurate facility markings due to interference from abandoned facilities.
 - Do you have any recommendations to detect abandoned facilities while performing locate and mark activities?

Questions to facility operators

- Do you impose any requirements for your contractors or employees to use locating equipment to verify the locate marks or check for abandoned facilities? Under what circumstances?
 - What steps do you take to verify the ownership of a facility after being notified that an abandoned facility may be yours?
- What information about abandoned facilities do you provide to contract locators, and how do you provide that information?
- How do you communicate to other parties that you have determined an abandoned facility is or is not yours?
 - Do you use the ticket as part of this communication in any way?
 - How do you communicate this determination to other operators?

- How do you communicate this determination to an excavator?
- If you determine that an abandoned facility is yours, what steps do you take to incorporate the facility into your records?
 - Is additional potholing ever required to continue locating the extent of the facility? Under what circumstances?