



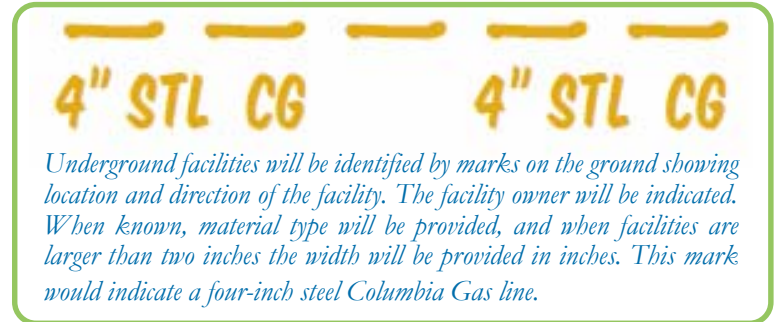
Committee releases Ohio's Universal Marking Standards information

Ohio's Universal Marking Standards Committee will begin releasing education and information regarding new marking standards to be used in the state of Ohio.

A joint effort between Ohio Utilities Protection Service, facility owners, facility locators and excavators, the project started when members of Ohio's damage prevention councils recognized the need for clear, consistent communication in order to reduce damages and injuries and increase work efficiency, thus saving time and money.

Committee member Mike Princic of Cook Paving and Construction said that the new standards will make it easier for excavators to understand what's underground, thus making it easier to identify location and prevent damage and injury. "The main goal is to prevent injury and having a clearer understanding of the marks and their meaning will reduce the frequency of injuries and damage."

A committee was formed in the fall of 2008 and elected Alice Miller, O.U.P.S., as chairman and Jennifer Reams, Crestline Paving & Excavation, secretary. The committee included 24



Underground facilities will be identified by marks on the ground showing location and direction of the facility. The facility owner will be indicated. When known, material type will be provided, and when facilities are larger than two inches the width will be provided in inches. This mark would indicate a four-inch steel Columbia Gas line.

representatives from facility owners, facility locators, excavators and other members of underground utility damage prevention organizations and stakeholders.

The committee and its endeavor received support from O.U.P.S., Ohio's six damage prevention councils, participating organizations, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and a 2009 State Damage Prevention Program Grant from Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

By-laws were established and the group agreed to use the consensus process as a way of making final decisions and recommendations. Though the consensus process ensures that all constituents agree, it can be time consuming and difficult to come to a conclusion upon which all members of the group agree.

Using Virginia's underground utility marking standards, American Public Works Association (APWA) Marking Standards, Common Ground Alliance (CGA) Best Practices, and marking guidelines from other states, the committee addressed situations such as proposed excavation marks, multiple duct banks and pipeline material indication. It used input from members and other

resources to develop the standards for marking.

The new marks address white lining, single and multiple facilities, owner/operator identification, pipelines, plastic inserts, duct/duct banks, termination points and deviation in direction, offset marks and valve boxes and manholes. The new markings standards are not comprehensive and do not address all possible scenarios. They are not law and are not written into proposed Senate Bill 152.

New educational material will include in-depth descriptions of the marks as well as definitions and materials abbreviations explanations. A training video in English and Spanish and new excavator manuals will also be released.

Information will be sent to facility owners on Jan. 11. Additional information and in-depth descriptions of the marks will follow.

The Web site, which will include a video, power point, manuals, etc. will go live by mid-January. Excavators will begin receiving educational information in February. It is important that facility owners and locators begin using the new marking standards by spring of 2010. Information will be available at www.oups.org/markings.

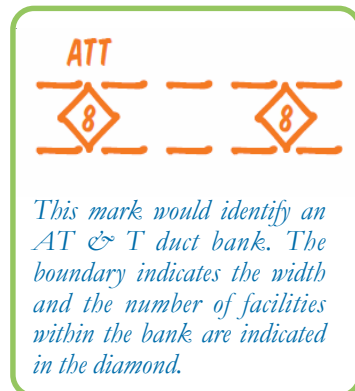
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Don't miss out on the benefits and savings from the Consortium Buying Program



This mark would identify an AT & T duct bank. The boundary indicates the width and the number of facilities within the bank are indicated in the diamond.

2009 Miamisburg Safety Day

Ohio Utilities Protection Service hosted its Second Annual Safety Day, October 1 at the Ohio Operating Engineers Facility in Miamisburg, Ohio.

Close to 250 contractors, excavators, landscapers, students and other interested parties enjoyed a day of demonstrations, educational sessions and networking with vendors and industry professionals.

The event was co-sponsored by Buckeye Partners, BP Pipeline, Bloodhound Locating, Columbia Gas Transmission, Premier Utility Services, LLC, Montgomery County Water Services, Vectren Energy Delivery, ANR Pipeline Company, Arts Rental and Tele-Vac Environmental.



Guest speaker Eric Giguere spoke on the importance of safety and not cutting corners and discussed his experience being trapped in a trench.



Participants watch a demonstration of a trench rescue by the Greenville Fire Department.



An equipment rodeo tested participants' skills in a series of events using heavy machinery.

Participants attended sessions on various industry issues including Common Ground Alliance Best Practices, OSHA standards, excavation safety, and Ohio's new marking standards.

The lunch speaker was Eric Giguere, a former construction worker who was brought back to life after being trapped in a trench.

Attendees were also given the opportunity to attend demonstration sessions about electric lines, underground line location, and hydro-vac operation demonstrations. Participants also got a chance to watch a demonstration of a trench rescue by the Greenville Fire Department. A heavy equipment rodeo also gave participants the chance to complete obstacles with the equipment.

The 25 vendors represented various industry participants ranging from utility companies to locating services and information technology organizations.

O.U.P.S. would like to thank the apprentices and supervisors at the Miamisburg Ohio Operating Engineers Facility for hosting the event and for their assistance in making Safety Day a success.

O.U.P.S. Continues partnership with NASCAR Sprint Cup Rookie of the Year

NASCAR Rookie of the Year Joey Logano knows the importance of safety and being prepared. Early in the season he was nearly taken out by a crash at Dover Raceway when his car spun off of and back on to the track. He was then hit, forcing his car into a spiral where he rolled seven times before landing on the roof of the No. 20 Home Depot car.

So in order to encourage safety Ohio Utilities Protection Service, along with ten other states, will renew its contract with the 2009 Sprint Cup Rookie of the Year. The deal includes new print, radio and television ads and will feature Logano and the 8-1-1 Call Before You Dig campaign.

Logano's premier season was, no doubt, a season to remember. He took 26 Rookie of the Race honors in just 36 races and ended the season with one victory, three top-five and seven top-10 finishes, making starts in all 36 Sprint Cup events.

Logano's win came in the Lenox Industrial Tools 301 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, New Hampshire making him the youngest winner in Sprint Cup history. In Sprint point standings he finished 20th after starting 43rd at the beginning of the year, sliding ahead of all the other rookies and racing greats like Dale Earnhardt Jr., Elliott Sadler and Michael Waltrip.

In the Nationwide series he finished 14th and had five wins, 13 top-five and 16 top 10 finishes.

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee and Texas will also participate in the 2010 ad campaign.



JOEY LOGANO SAYS...
SAFE DIGGING IS NO ACCIDENT!

Before you replace your mailbox post, install a fence or do some landscaping, call 811. Your neighborhood utilities will mark any underground utility lines running near your project area. Save time and money, and help keep your neighborhood safe. Don't race to excavate, Call 811!

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

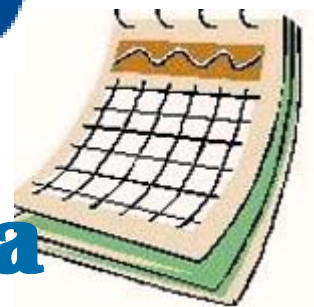
OHIO Utilities Protection SERVICE
Call Before You Dig

www.oups.org

2010 Safety Days

June 3 in Cleveland Area

September 16 in Miamisburg



Be on the lookout for more information

The Northwest Ohio Damage Prevention Council

The Northwest Ohio Damage Prevention Council held their annual breakfast meeting Thursday, December 3 at the Stone Ridge Golf Club in Bowling Green. The council and attendants welcomed keynote speakers Senator Steve Buehrer and Shawn Corwin of United States Infrastructure Corporation Locating (formerly Central Locating Service). Senator Buehrer represents Ohio's 1st district and introduced Senate Bill 152 into legislation. He spoke about current issues facing Ohio lawmakers, including the state budget and Senate Bill 152. Corwin talked about the locating process when marking excavation sites and addressed questions and issues in the field. The council also presented awards to outgoing Co-Chairs Rick Bishop and Jennifer Reams.



Senator Steve Buehrer spoke to the council about state budget and Senate Bill 152.

The Utilities Council of Northern Ohio



The Utilities Council of Northern Ohio hosted its annual breakfast at Sleepy Hollow Country Club in Brecksville on Friday, Dec. 4. Chair Cornelius Lemon helped welcome keynote speaker ODOT District 12 Deputy Director Bonita Teeuwen who spoke about upcoming projects and what ODOT is doing to prevent damage. Lemon also presented an award to outgoing Co-Chair Lou Griggs.

Lou Griggs, outgoing council co-chair, accepts recognition from current Chair Cornelius Lemon

Eastern Ohio Utilities Council

The Eastern Ohio Utilities Council hosted its annual brunch meeting at the Ohio Edison building in Youngstown on Dec. 13th. Chair Joe Dunlap welcomed approximately 100 attendees to the lunch. Alice Miller, O.U.P.S., updated the attendants on the new Ohio marking standards and O.U.P.S. Executive Director Roger Lipscomb talked about Senate Bill 152.

Megan Jolly of United States Infrastructure Corporation Locating (formerly Central Locating Service) received the council's 2009 Outstanding Council Member award for her ongoing dedication to the council and its mission.



Council Chair Joe Dunlap presented the Outstanding Council Member award to Megan Jolly



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For more information contact

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