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## Electrical Ground Safety

It is critical to understand where electricity is located on a jobsite in order to avoid electrocutions of workers.

### In the Ground:

- Before any digging takes place, even with a shovel, utility locates are required. Some lines are barely beneath the surface.
- Locates include sewer, telephone, fuel, electric and water lines.
- Outline / mark your planned dig site in white.
- CALL 811.
- Do not dig until all known utilities are marked.
- Maintain all marks.
- Determine the precise location of the marked utilities by pot holing.
- Dig safely using proven excavating methods.
- Use handheld digging tools when digging within 24 inches of the outside edge of any underground lines.
- Emergency excavation is not exempt from calling for locate.
- Use potholing, vacuum excavation, or hand tools when digging close to lines.

### Best Practices for Maintaining Locate Marks:

- Preserve or protect as many of the original marks as possible.
- Use off-set staking, in areas where original locate marks will be continuously destroyed by excavation or weather.
- The off-set staking must be uniformly aligned and must be accurately indicated at the location of the original locate markings.
- Digital scaled photo, or other permanent scaled imaging or drawings, may be used in areas where original locations are found.
- Marks can be destroyed by excavation or weather.
- Use white paint to maintain the original markings.
- Bookend the original locate marks with solid white squares or brackets.