

UTILITY MARKING

DECODING the MARKS

WHAT THE MARKS AND FLAGS MEAN

After completing a ticket with Sunshine 811, representatives of your local utility companies will visit your property to locate and mark their underground public utility lines. These lines are usually marked with chalk, paint or flags of different colors. These colors will help you and your excavator understand what is underground and where it is safe (or not safe) to dig.

Color Codes for Marking Underground Utilities

ELECTRIC, POWER, LIGHTING	COMMUNICATION	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROL	SEWER, DRAIN LINES
POTABLE WATER	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION, SLURRY	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS	PROPOSED EXCAVATION

PUBLIC vs. PRIVATE UTILITIES

Florida law requires Sunshine 811's member utilities to mark the lines they own and maintain, such as gas, communications, internet and electric. But, almost every jobsite includes some type of privately-owned underground utility line. These utilities are not listed in Sunshine 811's database. Before you dig, inspect your property carefully for private lines. You may want to consider hiring a private locate company to mark the private lines, especially if they might be underground, near where you are digging.

Examples of Residential Private Utilities

- Electricity to sheds, garages, barns or electric fences
- Invisible dog fences, data cables or landscape lighting
- Water, septic or irrigation systems
- Propane or natural gas running to grills and pool heaters

Besides residential homes, private utility lines can be common in apartment complexes, mobile home parks and gated subdivisions.

For more information on Florida digging laws, visit sunshine811.com

