



Call before you dig!

The Utility Coordinating Committee (UCC) is a Damage Prevention Council. Please allow us to share some important safety information with you.

If you, or a contractor hired by you, are planning any type of digging (such as landscaping, installing sprinkler systems, swimming pools, spas, fences, decks etc.), you should first call the **Lone Star Notification Center** at **(713) 223-4567** or **(800) 669-8344** to identify potential buried powerlines, pipelines, or other service lines. A National Common Ground study reveals that fifty percent of underground utility damages are caused by people digging without knowing the location of buried utility lines. One careless dig can cause the following:

- ◆ **Loss of service** - Entire subdivisions, shopping malls and medical centers could lose electric power, gas service, telephone service, cable TV, 911 service and cellular phone connections. *Someone in your neighborhood may depend on life support equipment which requires electric power.*
- ◆ **Expense** - Labor, supplies and equipment to repair underground facilities can cost hundreds of dollars, in some cases thousands. Remember that insurance companies pass the cost onto consumers.
- ◆ **Threat to life and health** - If you hit a power line with mechanical equipment or hand digging tools, you can be shocked or electrocuted. If you hit a gas line, chances are you will cause a fire.

For safety's sake, plan your project. Call the Lone Star Notification Center 48 hours before you dig. Utility companies will come out and stake their buried lines free of charge. However, in Houston and some surrounding areas, power lines on private property may not belong to the utility (CenterPoint Energy) and will not be staked. You may contact private location companies for this service for a modest fee. Private location companies are in no way affiliated with the UCC, Lone Star Notification Center or CenterPoint Energy.

To request the location of underground utility lines, call the **Lone Star Notification Center** at **713-223-4567** or **800-669-8344**. After waiting 48 hours, call the **CenterPoint Energy** hot line at **713-207-5463** if you have problems locating a gas or electric line.