

Underground Services

Different types of services present different risks but all must be treated with caution. Services include things such as overhead power cables, underground electric cables, telecommunications cables, gas mains, water mains and drainage systems.

ELECTRICITY

- Treat all cables (overhead or underground) as live.
- Maintain appropriate distances from known cables.
- A trained competent person may be able to locate underground services using a cable location device.
- All known cables must be clearly marked.
- Any excavation near known cables or to locate cables must be done by hand.

GAS

- Gas is flammable & explosive
- If you smell gas, call the gas board.
- Protect pipes when moving plant in the vicinity.

WATER

- If water pipes are damaged call the water board.
- Protect pipes when moving plant in the vicinity.

SEWERS

- If a sewer pipe is damaged cordon off the area and phone the maintainer.

OTHER PIPES & DRAINAGE

- All pipes and drainage should be blocked before piling to ensure that no contamination occurs.

Services are marked different colours so you know what they are.

Electricity – Black or Red

Water – Blue

Gas – Yellow

Telecommunications – Grey

Cable television - Green

Did you know?

You must have a permit to dig in place before starting work, however this not a guarantee that there are no services.

Q : ‘Name three types of services?’

Q : ‘How should you excavate close to underground services?’

Q : ‘What should you do when moving plant near underground services?’

