SD101 Safe Digging – Supervisory Ground Disturbance

Course Overview: Developed with input from a cross-sector of industries, Locate Management's online Safe Digging – Supervisory Ground Disturbance 1 day (up to 8 hours) course is aimed at developing supervisory ground disturbance (excavation) skills and attitudes. This e-learning course, endorsed by the ABCGA, explains the necessary process to plan and safely perform a ground disturbance (excavation) as per applicable regulatory federal and provincial/state requirements, acts and industry best practices. Included are online quizzes and a final exam. Certificate and wallet card issued upon successful completion.

Who Should Take This Course? All individuals, including supervisors, ground disturbers, excavators, project managers, and workers, who work in the ground disturbance (excavation) industry will benefit from this e-learning supervisory (level 201) ground disturbance training course.

Module 1 – Introduction to Safe Digging

1. Explain safe digging and why it is important to workers, companies, and the public
2. Describe how corporate policies, COPs, and procedures relate to safe digging
3. Identify the **PROPPER** phases and best practices of safe digging

Module 2 – Legislation and Damage Prevention

1. Explain legislation as it pertains to ground disturbance
2. Describe damage prevention and the damage prevention process

Module 3 – Stakeholders and Damage Prevention

1. Define the Common Ground Alliance
2. Identify the importance and limitations of one-call centres
3. Describe a locator's role and locate requirements
4. Explain responsibilities of ground disturbers after locates
5. Define hand-exposure and hand-exposure zones
6. Recognize and differentiate special situations
7. Summarize stakeholder responsibilities

Module 4 – Information Sources and Visual Inspection

1. Identify various information sources and understand their importance
2. Read, comprehend, and utilize facility owner/operator-supplied records and other facility information
3. Read, comprehend, and utilize other information sources
4. Recognize inaccurate records
5. Recognize warning signs
6. Use visual inspection skills to recognize facilities, labels and tags
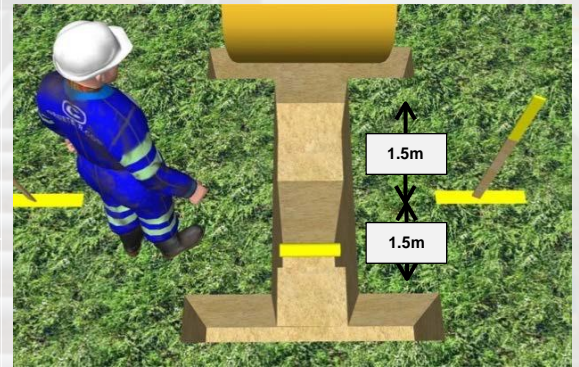
Module 5 – Hazards, Obstacles and Safety

1. Manage ground disturbance safety
2. Explain electric power hazards and safety

Module 6 – Locating and Marking

1. Describe the quality levels of subsurface utility engineering and how they pertain to locating and ground disturbance
2. List the questions to ask during the locating and marking phase of a ground disturbance and identify locate marks
3. Explain field delineation guidelines for operators' facilities
4. Summarize various locating methods
5. Recognize locating obstacles and tracing problems that can affect the accuracy of locates

Module 7 – Hydrovacing and Facility Verification

1. Describe hydrovac procedures
2. Use hydrovac slots at facility crossings
3. Apply hydrovac procedures for trenchless crossings
4. Explain hydrovacing as the primary means of excavation
5. Identify hydrovac procedures for spills and leaks
6. List facility identification and verification procedures

Module 8 – Safe Excavation

1. Explain soil testing, mechanics, and classification
2. Maintain a safe excavation, using sloping and benching procedures
3. Select and use appropriate temporary protective structures and supports
4. Ensure safe worker access and egress
5. Use temporary crossing ramps

Module 9 – The PROPPER Phases of Safe Digging

1. **P**lan
2. **R**eview and prepare documentation
3. **O**rganize and prepare the work site
4. **P**erform locates
5. **P**re-excavate
6. **E**xcavate
7. **R**estore

Module 10 – Types of Incidents and How to Prevent Them

1. Describe incident-producing conditions/situations and explain proper preventative procedures
2. Recognize unsafe digging practices and explain proper corrective actions