

Utility Marking Rule

The Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety has adopted a new rule requiring cities to locate and mark private sewer and water service laterals. For service laterals installed after December 31, 2005, the new rules impose a three-part obligation. First, cities are required to "maintain a map, a diagram, a drawing, or geospatial information regarding the location of its underground facilities within a public right-of-way." Second, cities must "install a locating wire or have an equally effective means of marking the location of each nonconductive underground facility within a public right-of-way installed after that date. Third, cities must begin locating "the portion of the service lateral within the public right-of-way."

To ensure compliance with Minnesota Rules chapter 7560, the City of Zimmerman will enforce this rule effective immediately.

Locating Wire (Tracer Wire) of a #12 gauge diameter, stranded with a coating to protect the wire, shall be placed directly on top of any PVC pipe or any nonconductive piping. This wire will be fastened to the top of the pipe with a good quality electrical tape, double wrapped (at least twice around), every six (6) feet of length of pipe.

The wire shall run the distance from the street connection to the top of the clean-out outside of the structure being serviced.

