

Based on a recent industry survey in Ohio, only 30% of contractors report damages or near misses.

But acting responsibly takes more than a call. It requires reporting. In 2003 the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) launched DIRT (Damage Information Reporting Tool). In 2008 Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) launched Virtual Private DIRT (VPD), an Ohio-based secure web application for reporting, collecting, and analyzing underground utility safety and damage data.

DIRT helps increase safety and prevent infrastructure damage by serving as a national clearinghouse for damage data collection, analysis, and dissemination. The data collected through DIRT helps identify root causes, perform trend analysis, and educate stakeholders about safety precautions and procedures.

CALL. DIG. REPORT. Put DIRT to Work for Ohio.

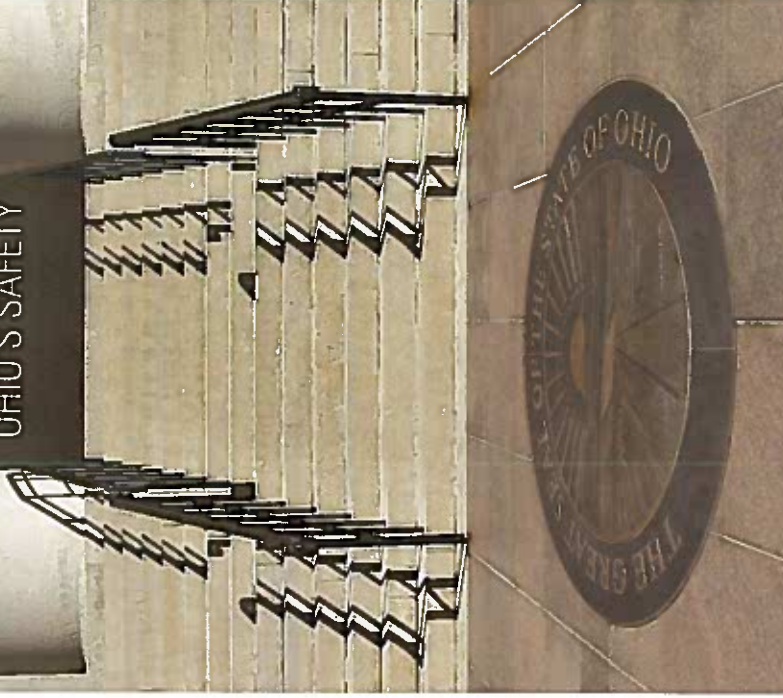
The Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) is a not-for-profit organization that serves as the communication link between facility owners and anyone planning excavation activity in Ohio.
www.oups.org



CLICK www.oups.org – CALL 811 – TAP the O.U.P.S. App
BEFORE YOU DIG



TAKE THE NEXT STEP TO ENSURE OHIO'S SAFETY



CALL. DIG. REPORT.

IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

The Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) is at the forefront of initiating excavation safety measures in Ohio—essential steps that protect Ohio's infrastructure, further economic development, and protect the well-being of Ohio workers and the general public. The cornerstone of Ohio's damage prevention process, O.U.P.S. helps to ensure safe excavation around underground utility facilities.

O.U.P.S. currently processes more than one million excavation notices annually—A SIGN THAT CONTRACTORS, ENGINEERS, AND HOMEOWNERS UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF CALLING BEFORE THEY DIG TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND PROTECT OUR INFRASTRUCTURE



Data reporting could help to prevent future incidents like this.

WHY SUPPORT REPORTING?

Damage to Ohio's underground infrastructure threatens public safety, the safety of Ohio workers, and can cost billions of dollars each year. Gathering reliable data from DIRT arms state legislators with the information needed to create stronger, more effective laws in Ohio.

WHAT IS FACILITY DAMAGE?

Any impact or exposure that results in the need to repair an underground facility due to a weakening, or the partial or complete destruction, of the facility.

HOW DOES DIRT WORK?

DIRT allows users to confidentially submit excavation damage and near miss reports, and then stores that data and provides the user access to the information to determine the root cause(s). The data can be segmented—and reports generated—by industry, location, equipment used, etc.

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HOW DOES REPORTING BENEFIT OHIO?

Those who use DIRT are able to implement improvements based on their own internal damage reports; help their organizations set benchmarks; develop appropriate damage prevention messages; and help produce new best practices for safe digging.

Education is essential: 74% of Ohio contractors are unaware that there is a formalized damage reporting system.

SUPPORT DIRT REPORTING
TO HELP MAKE OHIO A SAFER
PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.

For more information go to
www.oups.org/vpd.