

2021

**Division of Occupational &
Professional Licenses**

Damage Prevention

**Idaho Statutes
and
Administrative Rules**

Table of Contents

Idaho Statutes

Damage Prevention

TITLE 55. PROPERTY IN GENERAL

CHAPTER 22. UNDERGROUND FACILITIES DAMAGE PREVENTION

Legislative Intent	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2201</i>
Definitions	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2202</i>
Damage Prevention Board	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2203</i>
Damage Prevention Board Fund Established – Use of Funds	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2204</i>
Permit Compliance — Notice Of Excavation — Response To Notice — Compensation For Failure To Comply — Exemptions.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2205</i>
One-Number Notification Service — Establishment — Participation Required — Funding.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2206</i>
Excavation Contracts — Limitations — Precautions To Avoid Damage — Liability For Damage	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2207</i>
Damage To Underground Facilities — Duties Of Excavator And Owner — Reporting Of Data	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2208</i>
Duties Of Public Agency Issuing Excavation, Building Or Other Similar Permits.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2209</i>
Excavations Exempt From Notice Requirement.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2210</i>
Violation — Civil Penalty — Duties Of The Board And The Administrator — Other Remedies Unimpaired.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2211</i>
Waiver Permitted By Owner Of Underground Facility.	<i>Idaho Code § 55-2212</i>

TITLE 55. PROPERTY IN GENERAL
CHAPTER 22. UNDERGROUND FACILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION

§ 55-2201. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the legislature in enacting this chapter to create a system of stakeholder-driven education and enforcement addressing the prevention of damage to underground facilities, to assign responsibilities for locating and keeping accurate records of underground facility locations, for preventing and repairing damage to existing underground facilities, for collecting, storing, analyzing and disseminating data related to underground facility damage and excavator downtime events, and for protecting the public health and safety from great personal harm including death, property damage and interruption in vital services caused by damage to existing underground facilities. It is further the intent of the legislature that the state of Idaho, by adopting this chapter, reaffirms its primacy over underground facility damage prevention programs that protect the health, safety and property of its citizens and that, by adopting this chapter, Idaho precludes the pipeline and hazardous materials safety administration of the United States department of transportation from determining that Idaho's damage prevention enforcement is inadequate pursuant to 49 CFR part 198, as adopted on July 9, 2015, and effective on January 1, 2016, and prevents any subsequent federal administrative enforcement actions that would result from such a formal determination.

§ 55-2202. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Administrator" means the administrator of the division of building safety.
- (2) "Board" means the damage prevention board.
- (3) "Business day" means any day other than Saturday, Sunday, or a legal, local, state, or federal holiday.
- (4) "Damage" means any impact or exposure that results in the substantial weakening of structural or lateral support of an underground facility, or the penetration, impairment, or destruction of any underground protective coating, housing, or other protective device, or the partial or complete destruction of the facility, or the severance, partial or complete, of any underground facility to the extent that the project owner or the affected underground facility owner determines that repairs are required.
- (5) "Emergency" means any sudden or unforeseen condition constituting a clear and present danger to life, health or property, or a customer service outage, or the blockage of roads or transportation facilities that requires immediate action.
- (6) "End user" means any customer or consumer of any utility service or commodity provided by an underground facility owner.
- (7) "Excavation" means any operation in which earth, rock, or other material in the ground is moved or otherwise displaced by any means including, but not limited to, explosives.
- (8) "Excavator" means any person who engages directly in excavation.
- (9) "Excavator downtime" means lost time for an excavation project due to failure of one (1) or more stakeholders to comply with applicable damage prevention regulations.

(10) "Hand digging" means any excavation involving nonmechanized tools or equipment that when used properly will not damage underground facilities. Hand digging includes, but is not limited to, hand shovel digging, manual posthole digging, vacuum excavation, and soft digging.

(11) "Identified but unlocatable underground facility" means an underground facility that has been identified but cannot be located with reasonable accuracy.

(12) "Identified facility" means any underground facility that is indicated in the project plans as being located within the area of proposed excavation.

(13) "Locatable underground facility" means an underground facility that can be field-marked with reasonable accuracy.

(14) "Locator" means a person who identifies and marks the location of an underground facility owned or operated by an underground facility owner.

(15) "Marking" means the use of stakes, paint, or other clearly identifiable materials to show the field location of underground facilities, in accordance with the current color code standard of the American public works association. Markings shall include identification letters indicating the specific type of the underground facility.

(16) "One-number notification service" means a service through which a person can notify owners of underground facilities and request field-marking of their underground facilities.

(17) "Person" means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, a state, a city, a county, or any subdivision or instrumentality of a state, and its employees, agents, or legal representatives.

(18) "Public right-of-way" means the area on, below, or above a public roadway, highway, street, lane, path, sidewalk, alley, or other right-of-way dedicated for compatible uses.

(19) "Reasonable accuracy" or "reasonably accurate" means location within twenty-four (24) inches horizontally of the outside dimensions of each side of an underground facility.

(20) "Rural underground facility owner" means an underground facility owner that is a public utility or a member-owned cooperative that serves fewer than five thousand (5,000) total customers in a county or counties with populations that do not exceed fifty thousand (50,000) people.

(21) "Service lateral" means any underground facility located in a public right-of-way or underground facility easement that is used to convey water (unless being delivered primarily for irrigation), stormwater, or sewage and connects an end user's building or property to an underground facility owner's main utility line.

(22) "Soft digging" means any excavation using tools or equipment that utilize air or water pressure as the direct means to break up soil or earth for removal by vacuum excavation.

(23) "Stakeholder" means any party with an interest in protecting underground facilities including, but not limited to, persons, property owners, underground facility owners, excavators, contractors, cities, counties, highway districts, railroads, public entities that deliver irrigation water and those engaged in agriculture.

(24) "Underground facility" means any item buried or placed below ground for use in connection with the storage or conveyance of water (unless being delivered primarily for irrigation), stormwater, sewage, electronic, telephonic or telegraphic communications, cable television, electric energy, petroleum products, gas, gaseous vapors, hazardous liquids, or other substances and including, but not limited to, pipes, sewers, conduits, cables, valves, lines, wires, manholes, attachments, and those parts of poles or anchors below ground.

(25) "Underground facility easement" means a nonpossessory right to operate, control, bury, install, maintain, or access an underground facility.

(26) "Underground facility owner" means any person who owns or operates an underground facility or who provides any utility service or commodity to an end user via an underground facility.

§ 55-2203. Damage Prevention Board.

(1) The Idaho damage prevention board is hereby created and made a part of the division of building safety. The principal purpose of the board is to reduce damages to underground facilities and to promote safe excavation practices through education directed toward excavators, underground facility owners and the public at large. The board also shall review complaints of alleged violations of this chapter. It shall be the responsibility and duty of the administrator to administer this chapter, and the administrator shall exercise such powers and duties as are reasonably necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The board shall consist of eleven (11) members, each of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the governor. All members of the board shall be qualified by experience, knowledge and integrity in formulating rules, reviewing complaints referred to it and assessing penalties, and properly performing the functions of the board. Of the eleven (11) members, one (1) each shall represent the interests of the following designated groups and be:

- (a) A city official or a county official;
- (b) An employee or elected official of a highway district;
- (c) An employee of the Idaho public utilities commission;
- (d) An employee or officer of a one-number notification service entity or a member of the Idaho utility coordinating council or similar cooperative statewide nonprofit organization created to coordinate the protection of underground facilities in specific geographic portions of the state;
- (e) An employee or officer of an underground facility owner;
- (f) An employee or officer of an underground pipeline facility owner;
- (g) An employee or officer of a rural underground facility owner;
- (h) An employee or officer of a contractor;
- (i) An employee or officer of a building contractor;
- (j) An employee or officer of an excavator; and
- (k) An employee or owner of an agricultural enterprise, a representative of the agriculture industry, or an employee or an official of a public entity that delivers water for irrigation.

(3) Each member of the board shall serve a term of four (4) years, and such terms shall be staggered. The initial board shall have three (3) members whose terms expire July 1, 2018; four (4) members whose terms expire July 1, 2019; and four (4) members whose terms expire July 1, 2020. Thereafter, each board member shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. No member of the board may be appointed to more than two (2) consecutive terms. A member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed. A successor must represent the same designated group that his predecessor was appointed to represent.

(4) The board shall meet within thirty (30) days after the appointment of all its members and thereafter at such other times as may be expedient and necessary for the proper performance

of its duties, but the board shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings per year. At the board's first meeting, the members shall elect one (1) of their number to be chairman and one (1) to serve as the vice chairman. The chairman may serve in such capacity for a one (1) year term and may not serve in such capacity for more than two (2) consecutive terms. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The administrator shall serve as the secretary to the damage prevention board.

(5) Each member of the board shall be compensated as provided by section [59-509\(n\)](#), Idaho Code.

(6) Each member of the board who is a contractor shall be registered in accordance with [chapter 52, title 54](#), Idaho Code, and shall be in good standing.

(7) The activities of the board shall be funded by a fee established by the board and promulgated in rule. Such fee shall be adopted by the board by no less than eight (8) affirmative votes at a meeting duly called for such purpose at which a quorum is present and shall be imposed uniformly upon all of the underground facility owners required by the provisions of this chapter to participate in and cooperate with the one-number notification service. The fee shall be assessed upon an underground facility owner each time such owner receives notice from a one-number notification service as required by section [55-2205](#), Idaho Code. The fee is established to defray the expenses of the board and the division in supervising, regulating and administering the provisions of this chapter, and the provision of services hereunder. The fee assessed upon an underground facility owner shall be collected by a one-number notification service and payable to the board in accordance with a schedule and in a manner established by the board in rule. All fees collected by the board shall be deposited with the state treasurer to be credited to the damage prevention board fund established pursuant to section [55-2204](#), Idaho Code.

(8) The board shall cause educational materials regarding safe digging practices and the dangers of failing to provide notice prior to excavating to be prepared and distributed statewide on an ongoing basis. The board may enter into agreements with other entities for this purpose.

(9) The board, by rule, may adopt or create training programs on all pertinent underground damage prevention topics, which may include, but are not limited to, safe excavation, locating and marking of facilities, determining facility damage, emergency procedures, excavator downtime, pre-marking of intended excavation areas, and procedures used when encountering unmarked facilities, for general use or for remedial training that may be ordered by the board pursuant to section [55-2211](#), Idaho Code.

(10) The board shall periodically review the effectiveness of the methods used for maintaining effective communications among stakeholders from receipt of an excavation notification until successful completion of the excavation and may adopt, by rule, methods to maintain or improve these communications among stakeholders.

(11) The board shall review complaints alleging violations of this chapter by any party against any other party subject to the jurisdiction of the board involving practices related to public safety and underground facilities damage prevention including, but not limited to, notification procedures, pre-marking of areas to be excavated, marking of facilities, excavation practices, excavator downtime, inaccurate location of facilities, untimely location of facilities, untimely commencement of excavation, failure of a permitting entity to reinstate a permit in a timely manner, failure of an underground facility owner to participate in a one-number notification service as required, or failure by a party to report damage data when required, and may impose appropriate training requirements or enforcement discipline as authorized by this chapter. The proceedings shall be governed by the provisions of section [55-2211](#) and [chapter 52](#),

[title 67](#), Idaho Code. Any party aggrieved by the action of the board shall be entitled to judicial review thereof in accordance with the provisions of [chapter 52, title 67](#), Idaho Code.

(12) To continually evaluate and improve program effectiveness, the board shall analyze the data collected pursuant to section [55-2208](#), Idaho Code, including the number of reported damage and downtime events and trends, the causes of such damage and any recommendations to further reduce the number of damage or downtime events annually. The board shall make its analysis publicly available.

(13) The board shall adopt, by rule, a process for reviewing the adequacy of underground facility owners' use of internal performance measures for those locating underground facilities and recommending changes to improve such performance.

(14) The board shall adopt, by rule, a process for reviewing and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground facility locating capability and the gathering and analysis of appropriate data.

(15) The board is authorized and directed to promulgate rules consistent with this act for the administration of this chapter and to effectuate the purpose thereof, except as may be limited or prohibited by law and the provisions of this chapter.

(16) The board may exercise such powers and duties as are reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The board is authorized to, and may among other activities:

(a) Hold meetings and attend or be represented at such meetings, prepare and publish rules pertaining to this section, make investigation or inquiry, conduct hearings, report findings and enter orders in matters over which the board has authority;

(b) Summon witnesses to appear and testify before it on any matter within the provisions of this chapter. No person shall be required to testify outside the county wherein he resides or where his principal place of business is located. A summons to testify shall be issued and served in like manner as a subpoena of a witness issued from the district court, or in any other manner consistent with the procedures of the division of building safety;

(c) Administer oaths and take affirmations of witnesses appearing before the board and appoint competent persons to issue subpoenas, administer oaths and take testimony, and appoint hearing officers;

(d) Impose civil penalties and conduct hearings related thereto for violations of this chapter or the rules of the board;

(e) Enter into agreements with any vendor or contractor to provide services or administer any obligation imposed on the board or the administrator by law, as well as the authority to make expenditures, and to make purchases in accordance with [chapter 57, title 67](#), Idaho Code, to effectuate such agreements; and

(f) Delegate to the administrator the power to perform ministerial functions, conduct investigations, recommend and collect civil penalties on its behalf and appoint hearing officers.

(17) The board may establish by administrative rule the fines to be paid for penalties issued for violations of this chapter. In no case shall the penalty exceed the limits prescribed in section [55-2211](#), Idaho Code.

(18) The board may receive contributions, gifts and grants on behalf of and in aid of the program. Such contributions, gifts and grants shall be deposited in the damage prevention board fund established pursuant to section [55-2204](#), Idaho Code.

§ 55-2204. Damage Prevention Board Fund Established — Use of Funds.

(1) All moneys received by the administrator under the terms and provisions of this chapter shall be paid into the state treasury as directed by the provisions of section [59-1014](#), Idaho Code, and shall be held by the state treasurer in a dedicated fund to be known as the damage prevention board fund and, other than as prescribed in subsection (2) of this section, all such moneys placed in said fund shall be set aside and appropriated to the division of building safety to carry into effect the provisions of this chapter.

(2) All moneys received from civil penalties collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be deposited into the damage prevention board fund and shall be spent exclusively in support of board activities to develop and disseminate educational programming designed to improve worker and public safety relating to excavation and underground facilities.

§ 55-2205. Permit compliance — Notice of excavation — Response to notice — Compensation for failure to comply — Exemptions.

(1) Before commencing excavation, the excavator shall:

(a) Comply with other applicable law or permit requirements of any public agency issuing permits;

(b) Pre-mark on-site the path of excavation with white paint or, as the circumstances require, other reasonable means that will set out clearly the path of excavation. An excavator need not pre-mark as required in this subsection if:

(i) The underground facility owner or its agent can determine the location of the proposed excavation by street address or lot and block by referring to a locate ticket; or

(ii) The excavator and underground facility owner have had a meeting prior to the beginning of the proposed excavation at the excavation site for the exchange of information required under this subsection.

(c) Provide notice of the scheduled commencement of excavation to all underground facility owners through a one-number notification service. If no one-number notification service is available, notice shall be provided individually to those owners of underground facilities known to have or suspected of having underground facilities within the area of proposed excavation. The notice shall be communicated by the excavator to the one-number notification service or, if no one-number notification service is available, to the owners of underground facilities not less than two (2) business days nor more than ten (10) business days before the scheduled date for commencement of excavation, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties.

(2) Upon receipt of the notice provided for in this section, the underground facility owner or the owner's agent shall locate and mark its locatable underground facilities with reasonable accuracy, as defined in section [55-2202](#), Idaho Code, by surface-marking the location of the facilities. If there are identified but unlocatable underground facilities, the owner of such facilities or the owner's agent shall locate and mark the underground facilities in accordance with the best information available to the owner of the underground facilities. The owner of the underground facility or the owner's agent providing the information shall respond no later than two (2) business days after the receipt of the notice or before the excavation time set forth in the excavator's notice, at the option of the underground facility owner, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties. Excavators shall not excavate until all known facilities have been marked. Once marked by the owner of the underground facility, or the owner's agent, the excavator is

responsible for maintaining the markings. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties, maintained markings shall be valid for purposes of the notified excavation for a period of no longer than three (3) consecutive weeks following the date of notification as long as it is reasonably apparent that site conditions have not changed so substantially as to invalidate the markings. If excavation has not commenced within three (3) weeks from the original notice to underground facility owners through the one-number notification service, the excavator shall reinitiate notice in accordance with this section.

(a) Excavators shall have the right to receive compensation from the owner of the underground facility for costs incurred if the owner of the underground facility does not locate its facilities in accordance with this chapter.

(b) The owner of the underground facility shall have the right to receive compensation for costs incurred in responding to excavation notices given less than two (2) business days prior to the excavation except for notices given for discovered facilities after the owner has identified facilities.

(3) An end user shall not be required to locate or mark any service lateral. An underground facility owner who provides any utility service or commodity via a service lateral shall locate and mark the service lateral in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to impose an indemnification obligation prohibited by law on any public agency as defined in section [67-2327](#), Idaho Code, or to alter the liability of any public agency as provided by law, including article VIII of the constitution of the state of Idaho.

(4) Emergency excavations are exempt from the time requirements for notification provided in this section.

(5) If the excavator, while performing the excavation, discovers underground facilities (whether active or abandoned) which are not identified or were not located in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, the excavator shall cease excavating in the vicinity of the facility and immediately notify the owner or operator of such facilities, or the one-number notification service. The excavator shall have the right to receive compensation from the underground facility owner for standby cost (based on standby rates made publicly available) incurred as a result of waiting for the underground facility owner or the owner's agent to arrive at the work site to identify the unidentified facilities and provided that if the underground facility owner or the owner's agent supplies the locate information required under subsection (2) of this section within eight (8) hours of the time that the excavator notifies the underground facility owner of facilities not previously located, the excavator's compensation for delay of the excavation project shall be limited to actual costs or two thousand dollars (\$2,000), whichever is less.

§ 55-2206. One-number notification service — Establishment — Participation required — Funding.

Two (2) or more persons who own or operate underground facilities in a county may voluntarily establish or contract with a third person to provide a one-number notification service to maintain information concerning underground facilities within a county. Upon the establishment of the first such one-number notification service, all others operating and maintaining underground facilities within said county shall participate and cooperate with the service, and no duplicative service shall be established pursuant to this chapter. The activities of the one-number locator service shall be funded by all of the underground facility owners or operators required by the

provisions of this section to participate in and cooperate with the service. All underground facility owners or operators who are required to participate in a one-number notification service are subject to the jurisdiction of the damage prevention board established in section [55-2203](#), Idaho Code.

§ 55-2207. Excavation contracts — Limitations — Precautions to Avoid Damage — Liability for Damage.

(1) Project owners shall indicate in bid or contract documents the existence of underground facilities known by the project owner to be located within the proposed area of excavation.

(2) An excavator shall use reasonable care to avoid damaging underground facilities. An excavator shall:

(a) Determine by hand digging, in the area twenty-four (24) inches or less from the facilities, the precise actual location of underground facilities which have been marked;

(b) Plan the excavation to avoid damage to or minimize interference with underground facilities in and near the excavation area; and

(c) Provide such support for underground facilities in and near the construction area, including during backfill operations, as may be reasonably necessary for the protection of such facilities.

(3) If an underground facility is damaged and such damage is the consequence of the failure to fulfill an obligation under this chapter, the party failing to perform that obligation shall be liable for any damages to the underground facility owner. Nothing in this chapter prevents the parties to an excavation contract from contracting with respect to the allocation of risk for changed or differing site conditions.

(4) In any action brought under this section, the prevailing party is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

§ 55-2208. Damage to Underground Facilities — Duties of Excavator and Owner — Reporting of Data.

(1) An excavator who, in the course of excavation, contacts or damages an underground facility shall notify the underground facility owner and the one-number notification service. If the damage causes an emergency condition or an actual breach of an underground facility that releases gas or hazardous liquids into the surrounding environment, the excavator causing the damage shall also alert the appropriate local public safety agencies by, at a minimum, calling 911, and take all appropriate steps to ensure the public safety. No damaged underground facility may be buried until it is repaired or relocated.

(2) The owner of the underground facilities damaged shall arrange for repairs or relocation as soon as is practical or may permit the excavator to do necessary repairs or relocation at a mutually acceptable price.

(3) Any party responsible for damages to an underground facility shall be liable for the cost of repairs.

(4) The board shall adopt by rule a procedure for the processing of claims related to damages to underground facilities.

(5) Underground facility owners who observe or suffer damage to an underground facility and excavators who observe or suffer excavator downtime related to a failure of one (1) or more stakeholders to comply with applicable damage prevention regulations shall report such information to the board in accordance with the rules promulgated by the board. Reporting of such data does not constitute a complaint provided for in section [55-2211](#), Idaho Code

§ 55-2209. Duties of Public Agency Issuing Excavation, Building or Other Similar Permits.

(1) Any public agency, as defined in section [67-2327](#), Idaho Code, that has the authority to issue excavation, building or other similar permits shall notify persons seeking such permits of the existence of this chapter and the one-number notification service telephone number.

(2) A permit shall not be valid for excavation until or unless the notice provisions of this section have been complied with, and the portion of the permit directly relating to excavation may be suspended by the issuing public agency if the permit holder violates any provisions of this chapter. The issuing public agency shall reinstate the permit at no charge within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving evidence of compliance with the provisions of this chapter

§ 55-2210. Excavations Exempt From Notice Requirement.

Unless facts exist which would reasonably cause an excavator to believe that an underground facility exists within the depth of the intended excavation, the following excavations shall not require notice of the excavation pursuant to section [55-2205](#)(1)(c), Idaho Code:

(1) An excavation of less than fifteen (15) inches in vertical depth outside the boundaries of an underground facility easement of public record on private property.

(2) The tilling of soil to a depth of less than fifteen (15) inches for agricultural practices.

(3) The extraction of minerals within recorded mining claims or excavation within material sites legally located and of record, unless such excavation occurs within the boundaries of an underground facility easement.

(4) Normal maintenance of roads, streets and highways, including cleaning of roadside drainage ditches and clear zones, to a depth of fifteen (15) inches below the grade established during the design of the last construction of which underground facility owners were notified and which excavation will not reduce the authorized depth of cover of an underground facility.

(5) Replacement of highway guardrail posts, sign posts, delineator posts, culverts, and traffic control device supports in the same approximate location and depth of the replaced item within public highway rights-of-way.

(6) Normal maintenance of railroad rights-of-way, except where such rights-of-way intersect or cross public roads, streets, highways, or rights-of-way adjacent thereto, or recorded underground facility easements.

§ 55-2211. Violation — Civil Penalty — Duties Of The Board And The Administrator — Other Remedies Unimpaired.

(1) The damage prevention board established in section [55-2203](#), Idaho Code, may hear, but may not initiate, contested cases of alleged violations of this chapter involving practices related to underground facilities as set forth in rules by the board. Persons who violate the provisions of this chapter are subject to civil penalties in accordance with this section. Complaints regarding an alleged violation of this chapter may be made by any individual and shall be made to the administrator. Complaints shall include the name and address of the complainant and the alleged violator, and the violation alleged. If the alleged violation involves facility damage or a downtime event, the complaint must be submitted on such forms and contain such information as required by the board in rule. Upon review of the complaint, and any investigation conducted therewith, the administrator shall notify the person making the complaint and the alleged violator, in writing, of the administrator's recommended course of action to the board. The administrator shall recommend that a training course adopted by the board, by rule, be successfully completed for a first violation of this chapter, except that if the complaint is for a first violation of this chapter wherein a residential homeowner or residential tenant excavating on the lot of his residency failed to provide notice as required in section [55-2205](#), Idaho Code, and caused damage to underground facilities, the board shall direct the administrator to deliver to the violator a written warning and educational materials to prevent a future violation. The administrator may recommend the imposition of a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for a second violation of this chapter and in addition may recommend successful completion of a training course adopted by the board, by rule, and issue a notice of intent to impose such penalty on behalf of the board. If the administrator recommends the imposition of a civil penalty, the violator may pay the fine to the board upon receipt of such notice. If, upon the expiration of twenty-one (21) days, the violator has not responded in writing to the division, the board may impose the penalty provided for in the notice. A violator shall also have the right to contest the imposition of a civil penalty to the board and the opportunity to produce evidence in his behalf. Notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be provided by the board, and such proceeding shall be governed by the provisions of [chapter 52, title 67](#), Idaho Code.

(2) In the event the board determines that a person has violated the provisions of this chapter a subsequent time within eighteen (18) months from an earlier violation, and where facility damage has occurred, the board may impose a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each separate violation in accordance with the process described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) All civil penalties recovered shall be deposited in the underground facility damage prevention board fund and used pursuant to section [55-2204\(2\)](#), Idaho Code.

(4) The penalties provided in this section are in addition to any other remedy at law or equity available to any party subject to the jurisdiction of the damage prevention board established in section [55-2203](#), Idaho Code.

(5) Unless expressly provided herein, nothing in this chapter eliminates, alters or otherwise impairs common law, statutory or other preexisting rights and duties of persons affected by the provisions of this chapter; nor does anything in this chapter, unless expressly so provided, eliminate, alter or otherwise impair other remedies, state or federal, including those at

common law, of an underground facility owner whose facility is damaged; nor do the provisions of this chapter affect any civil remedies for personal injury or property damage except as expressly provided for herein. The court in its discretion may award attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party.

§ 55-2212. Waiver Permitted by Owner of Underground Facility.

The notification and marking provisions of this chapter may be waived for one or more designated persons by an underground facility owner with respect to all or part of that underground facility owner's own underground facilities.

IDAPA 24 – DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY – IDAHO DAMAGE PREVENTION BOARD

24.39.90 – Rules of the Damage Prevention Board

Who does this rule apply to?

This rule applies to those who own underground facilities, and those who may engage in excavation, including the general public. It also applies to (811) one-number notification services who provide notice to facility owners of planned excavation activities.

What is the purpose of this rule?

The rule prescribes the requirements related to educational programs regarding the protection of underground facilities, and underground facility locating practices. It also prescribes fees for (811) one-number notification services, as well as a complaint process and civil penalties related to the enforcement of the statutory damage prevention requirements.

What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?

This rule implements the following statutes passed by the Idaho Legislature:

Property in General -

- [Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code](#) – Underground Facilities Damage Prevention
- [55-2203, Idaho Code](#) – Damage Prevention Board

Who do I contact for more information on this rule?

Idaho Division of Building Safety
1090 E. Watertower Street, Suite 150
Meridian, ID 83642
Phone: (208) 334-3950
Fax: (877) 810-2840
Email: customer.service@dbs.idaho.gov
Website: <https://dbs.idaho.gov/>

Table of Contents

24.39.90 – Rules Governing the Damage Prevention Board

000. Legal Authority.	3
001. Scope.	3
002. Administrative Appeals.	3
002. -- 006. (Reserved).....	3
007. Funding Of Board Activities.	3
008. Audit Of One-Number Service Records.	3
009. -- 014. (Reserved).....	3
015. Educational And Training Materials.	3
016. Adequacy Of Facility Owners Locating Underground Facilities.	4
017. Improvement Of Technology And Communications By Stakeholders.	4
018. Damage Prevention Complaints.	4
019. Claims And Reports Of Damage Or Excavator Downtime.	5
020. Civil Penalties.	5
021. -- 999. (Reserved).....	6

24.39.90 – RULES GOVERNING THE DAMAGE PREVENTION BOARD

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

These rules are promulgated pursuant to Section 55-2203, Idaho Code.

(7-1-21)T

001. SCOPE.

These rules are applicable to underground facilities, and facility owners as established in Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code.

(7-1-21)T

002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

01. Appeal Bond. Upon notice of the imposition of training or a civil penalty, the notified party may contest the imposition of such before the Damage Prevention Board in accordance with Section 018 of these rules. An appeal bond in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200) must accompany the request for hearing to contest the matter. In the case of training, the Division of Building Safety will refund the bond if the contesting party appears at the hearing. In the case of a civil penalty, the Division will refund any portion of the bond not used to satisfy the penalty imposed by the Board or the entire bond if the contesting party prevails at the hearing.

(7-1-21)T

002. -- 006. (RESERVED)

007. FUNDING OF BOARD ACTIVITIES.

Each owner of an underground facility must pay a fee of ten cents (\$.10) each time such owner receives notice from a one-number notification service as prescribed by Section 55-2205, Idaho Code. The fee assessed upon the underground facility owner is collected by the one-number notification service, and is payable to the board in accordance with the following schedule:

(7-1-21)T

01. Fee Assessed. The fee will be assessed on an underground facility owner for each notification issued by the one-number notification service to the underground facility owner, with the one-number notification service required to submit a summary of the number of notices issued in a given month to the board no later than fifteen (15) days following the end of the month in which the notices were issued.

(7-1-21)T

02. Payment Submission. The one-number notification service must submit payment to the board for all payments received from underground facility owners no later than seventy (70) days following the end of the month in which the notices were issued to the facility owners. In those cases where the payment from the underground facility owner is received after the seventy-day (70) period, the one-number service must include late payments in its next payment to the board.

(7-1-21)T

03. Notices Issued. The one-number notification service must also submit a detailed list of notices issued, including the facility owner's contact information, for which payment has not been received within the seventy (70) day period following the end of the month in which the notices were issued. Such list must be updated on a monthly basis to reflect the status of all past-due payments due from underground facility owners that have not been received.

(7-1-21)T

008. AUDIT OF ONE-NUMBER SERVICE RECORDS.

The Board has the right to review and audit the payment records of any one-number notification service relating to the collection of the fee imposed on underground facility owners. In the event the board wishes to conduct a review and/or audit of a one-number notification service, the board will provide no less than a five (5) business day advance notice of the intended action. The board may delegate any responsibilities contained herein this chapter to the Division of Building Safety.

(7-1-21)T

009. -- 014. (RESERVED)

015. EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING MATERIALS.

01. Approval of Training and Educational Programs. The Board approves acceptable training courses or programs and educational materials on relevant underground facility damage prevention topics pertaining to safe excavation, locating and marking of facilities, determining facility damage, emergency procedures, excavator downtime, pre-marking of intended excavation areas, and appropriate procedures when encountering unmarked facilities.

(7-1-21)T

02. Scope of Training and Educational Programs. Such training programs and educational materials must relate to various aspects of underground facility damage prevention, and contain practices, information, and standards generally accepted and recognized among stakeholders in Idaho.

(7-1-21)T

03. Accessibility of Training and Educational Programs. The Division maintains and periodically updates a database of approved educational materials and training programs. (7-1-21)T

04. Purposes of Training and Educational Programs. Such programs may be used for general educational use by stakeholders or for remedial training that may be ordered by the board or the administrator pursuant to Section 55-2211, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

016. ADEQUACY OF FACILITY OWNERS LOCATING UNDERGROUND FACILITIES.
The board reviews all stakeholder complaints of violations related to underground facility line locating, as well as generally accepted practices and procedures related to locating. Stakeholders must take remedial actions to improve line-locating performance and monitor and report performance improvements to the board. (7-1-21)T

017. IMPROVEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS BY STAKEHOLDERS.

01. Adoption of Technology and Communications Materials. On an annual basis the board reviews and adopts any available technology and communications materials which promote effective underground facility locating. The board will make available any such appropriate technology and communications materials as it may determine to all stakeholders on the Division website. (7-1-21)T

02. Availability of Technology and Communications Materials. The board may request that stakeholders provide it with information or data related to procedures, methods, or technologies utilized by such stakeholders to enhance communications among other stakeholders, or that enhances underground facility locating capabilities, or enhances the stakeholder's ability to gather and analyze data related to underground facility damage. The board will review such technologies, methods, or materials adopted by stakeholders to ensure that such use is adequate, as well as to provide stakeholders with best practices. The Division of Building Safety must maintain an approved database of such referenced stakeholder data for public viewing and analysis on its website. (7-1-21)T

018. DAMAGE PREVENTION COMPLAINTS.

01. Complaint Forms. Persons may submit written complaints to the administrator regarding an alleged violation of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code, on such forms as required by the Division. Notice of the complaint may be served concurrently on the alleged violator by the person submitting the complaint. Verifiable proof of such notification of a complaint provided to the alleged violator must also be provided to the administrator. (7-1-21)T

02. Contents. Complaints must include the name and address of the complainant and the alleged violator, the date and location of the alleged violation, as well as a complete description of the nature of the violation alleged, including whether it resulted in damage to an underground facility or an excavator downtime event. Complainants may also provide additional documentation in support of a complaint. Complaints must be accompanied by a sworn declaration from the complainant declaring that the information contained therein is true and accurate. The administrator may request additional information or documents in support of the complaint. (7-1-21)T

03. Complaint Procedures and Timelines. The following timelines and procedure govern the process of filing and administering complaints related to violations of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code, and the rules of the Board. (7-1-21)T

a. Initial Filing. Complaints must be filed with the administrator not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the alleged violation giving rise to the complaint or from the date the violation should have reasonably been discovered by the complainant, whichever is later. (7-1-21)T

b. Response. The administrator must notify the alleged violator of the complaint and request a response and any additional information from the alleged violator as may be necessary. The alleged violator may provide a response to the administrator within thirty (30) days from the date they are notified of the complaint by the administrator. (7-1-21)T

c. Recommendation. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the response, or if no response is received,

within fifteen (15) days from the deadline for filing a response, the administrator must notify the complainant and the alleged violator of his recommended course of action. The administrator may extend the period of time in which to determine a recommended course of action, and so notify the parties, if he determines it is necessary to further review or investigate the complaint. (7-1-21)T

d. Contest. The alleged violator has the right to contest the imposition of a civil penalty before the damage prevention board. Notice of such contest must be provided by the alleged violator not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the administrator's recommended course of action. Recommendations of the administrator regarding complaints may be reviewed by the board at its next regularly scheduled meeting. (7-1-21)T

019. CLAIMS AND REPORTS OF DAMAGE OR EXCAVATOR DOWNTIME.

01. Claims. Claims for the cost of repairs for damaged underground facilities are enforced by the affected underground facility owner in accordance with procedures as may be established by the facility owner, and in accordance with applicable law. Underground facility owners must provide notice to excavator contractors of such procedures, along with sufficient information supporting the basis for the amount of a claim within six (6) months from the date of the event giving rise to the claim or from the date the event should have reasonably been discovered by the underground facility owner, whichever is later. (7-1-21)T

02. Reports. Underground facility owners and excavators who observe, suffer or cause damage to an underground facility or observe, suffer or cause excavator downtime related to a failure of one (1) or more stakeholders to comply with applicable damage prevention statutes or regulations must report such information to the board on forms or by such method adopted for such by the board. Forms are available at the Division offices and electronically on the Division's website. (7-1-21)T

020. CIVIL PENALTIES.

The Idaho Damage Prevention Board is authorized under Section 55-2203(17), Idaho Code, to establish by administrative rule the fines to be paid for civil penalties issued for violations of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code. To the extent authorized by Section 55-2211, Idaho Code, the acts described in this section subject the violator to a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for a second offense and a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each offense that occurs thereafter within eighteen (18) months from an earlier violation, and where facility damage has occurred. (7-1-21)T

01. Violations of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code. The following acts subject a person to civil penalties: (7-1-21)T

a. Pre-marking Excavation Site. Any person who fails to adequately pre-mark onsite the path of proposed excavation as reasonably required under the circumstances in accordance with Section 55-2205(1)(b), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

b. Notice of Excavation. Any person who fails to provide notice of the scheduled commencement of excavation to any underground facility owner through a one-number notification service, or directly to a facility owner, as applicable within the prescribed time as required by Section 55-2205(1)(c), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

c. One-Number Notification to Facility Owner. A one-number notification service that fails to provide notice of a scheduled excavation upon notification from an excavator is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

d. Failure to Locate or Mark. An underground facility owner, owner's agent, or locator who fails to locate or mark underground facilities when responsible to do so in accordance with Section 55-2205(2), Idaho Code, or within the prescribed time provided therein, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

e. Failure to Wait for Locate or Maintain Markings. An excavator who commences excavation prior to waiting the time prescribed by Section 55-2205(2), Idaho Code, for all known facilities to be located and marked, or an excavator who fails to maintain the markings of underground facilities previously so marked subsequent to the commencement of excavation in accordance with Section 55-2205(2), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

f. Failure to Cease Excavation or Report Unidentified Facilities. An excavator who does not cease excavation in the immediate vicinity upon the discovery of underground facilities therein, whether such facilities be active or abandoned, which were not previously identified or located with reasonable accuracy, or does not notify the owner or operator of the facilities, or a one-number notification service in accordance with Section 55-2205(4), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

g. Failure to Identify Facilities in Contract Documents. Project owners who fail to indicate in bid or contract documents the existence of underground facilities known by the owner to be located within the proposed area of excavation in accordance with Section 55-2207, Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

h. Precautions to Avoid Damage. An excavator who does not engage in any of the activities required by Section 55-2207(2), Idaho Code, or use reasonable care to avoid damage to underground facilities is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

i. Reporting of Damage to Facility. An excavator who fails to report to a facility owner and a one-number notification service any contact or damage to an underground facility caused by such excavator in the course of excavation, or fails to alert an appropriate authority upon an actual breach of a facility which causes the release of gas or hazardous liquids as required by Section 55-2208(1), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

j. Reporting to the Board. An excavator or underground facility owner who observes, suffers or causes damage to an underground facility or excavator downtime related to the failure of one (1) or more stakeholders to comply with the damage prevention regulations and fails to report such information to the board as required by Section 55-2208(5), Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

k. Failure to Participate. Any person who fails to participate or cooperate with a one-number notification service as prescribed by Section 55-2206, Idaho Code, is subject to a civil penalty. (7-1-21)T

02. Second Offense. For the purpose of this section, a second offense is deemed to be any violation of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code, for which a civil penalty may be imposed in accordance with this section which occurs within eighteen (18) months of a previous violation of any provision. (7-1-21)T

03. Multiple Violations. Each day that a violation of Title 55, Chapter 22, Idaho Code, occurs for which a civil penalty may be imposed as provided herein constitutes a separate offense. (7-1-21)T

021. -- 999. (RESERVED)

Subject Index

A

Adequacy Of Facility Owners Locating
Underground Facilities 4
Administrative Appeals 3
Audit Of One-Number Service
Records 3

C

Civil Penalties 5
Multiple Violations 6
Second Offense 6
Violations of Title 55, Chapter 22,
Idaho Code 5
Claims & Reports Of Damage Or
Excavator Downtime 5
Claims 5
Reports 5

D

Damage Prevention Complaints 4
Complaint Forms 4
Complaint Procedures &
Timelines 4
Contents 4

E

Educational & Training Materials 3
Accessibility of Training &
Educational Programs 4
Approval of Training &
Educational Programs 3
Purposes of Training &
Educational Programs 4
Scope of Training & Educational
Programs 3

F

Funding Of Board Activities 3
Fee Assessed 3
Notices Issued 3
Payment Submission 3

I

Improvement Of Technology &
Communications By
Stakeholders 4
Adoption of Technology and
Communications Materials 4
Availability of Technology &
Communications Materials 4

L

Legal Authority 3

S

Scope 3