

Whitman County Public Works Utility (Phone, Power, Gas) Underground Installation Requirements

Plans and Installation Depth:

- Engineered plans must be submitted to Public Works prior to a utility installation permit being issued.
- Minimum installation depth of four (4) feet below the road surface is required. Four foot minimum depth is also required under drainage ditches and structures.
- Exceptions to the minimum depth may be granted on an individual basis. For instance, in solid rock, lines could be installed shallower than 4 feet. In rock areas where the minimum depth cannot be achieved, the contractor must use a rock saw to embed the utility into the rock. Other rock installation methods will not be approved.

Routes:

- **All routes and locations within the route must be pre-approved by Public Works.**
- Open cutting of paved surfaces is prohibited unless pre-approved by Public Works.
- Installations on gravel and dirt roads shall be buried under the road surface, a minimum of three (3) feet away from the road shoulder. Any deviations must be pre-approved by Public Works Road District Superintendent.
- All buried utilities must have a way to accurately locate them such as a locator line or wire.
- Warning tape shall be installed a minimum of 18 inches above all buried utilities.

Inspection:

- **A Full time on-site inspector required of the utility company/contractor.**
- Whitman County Road staff will “spot” inspect the project daily for quality assurance. Contractors must notify Whitman County a minimum of 24 hours prior to commencing work.
- Projects will be shut down immediately if there is no owner/contractor inspector on site.

Installation:

- A road grader must always be on site to grade rock to the side of the road at installation locations, then to grade back across the installation after the utility line is pulled through. Pre-approved compaction equipment must be used to mitigate all areas disturbed during installation.
- Boring, to a minimum depth of four (4) feet, under all culvert and other crossing locations is required. Culverts damaged by utility “plowing” will be replaced or repaired to Whitman County’s satisfaction at the sole expense of utility owner and/or contractor.
- **Road surface must be returned to safe condition daily.**

Job Completion and Certification:

- A Licensed Professional Engineer or pre-approved substitute (such as owner) will sign off on project completion to insure proper installation.
- **Gravel surfaces WILL require additional crushed aggregate applied at a minimum of 500 yards per mile.** If pre-approved, Whitman County can apply the aggregate to the road. If Whitman County mitigates the road surface, a fee of \$14.00 per yard, at 500 yards per mile, will be assessed to owner/contractor of the new utility line.
- Paved surfaces may require new asphalt in order to return the road to its original condition.
- All utility installation projects are subject to **Winter Shutdown on November 1st**. No exceptions.
- After installation is complete, all utility lines must be submitted in a timely fashion to ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC.