



Minnesota State Statute 216D One Call Law Changes Effective August 1, 2024

This document includes a summary of upcoming changes to Minnesota State Statute 216D. The changes will be effective starting August 1, 2024. For the full statute, please visit <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/0c3c1a11/IHc8-DFzHEmkznXP3IJvSA?u=https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/216D> and click “More Info” in the yellow banner.

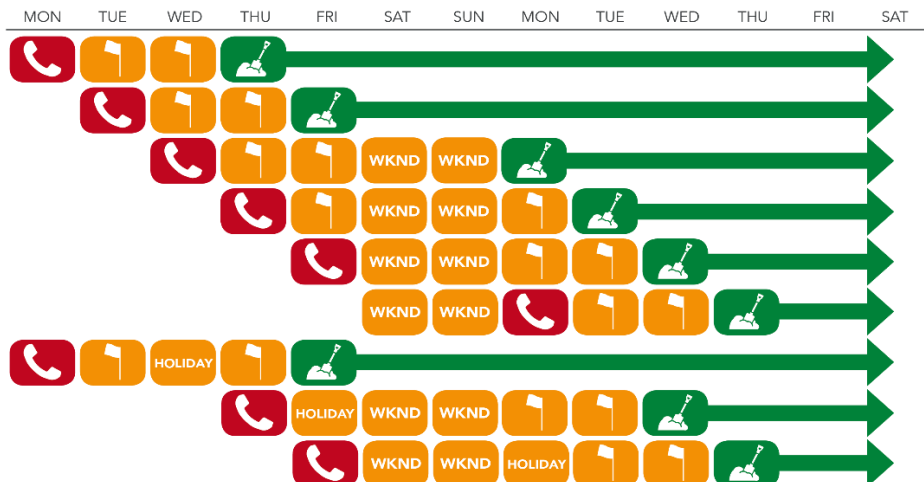
Changes to Locate Period and Start Times:

Beginning August 1, 2024, the 48-hour notice period for locating the public underground utility lines for Normal and Update notices will begin at 12:01 a.m. the day after the request is made. This timeline will continue to exclude weekends and holidays.

In addition, an excavator and utility operator may agree on a mutually acceptable period for a locate to be completed. This agreement must be documented with Gopher State One Call. Please see the timeline below for determining your start date and time.

CALL TIMELINE

Date of the call - does not count
 Waiting period for locates, includes weekends and holidays
 Date when digging may begin



Note: Your locate request can be submitted up to 14 calendar days prior to your start date.

Marking your jobsite to prepare for utility locates:

State law requires white markings be provided for all excavations. Effective August 1, 2024, and prior to January 1, 2026, these markings must be physically provided on site and may also be supplemented with an equivalent electronic marking description (digital white markings).

Beginning January 1, 2026, an excavator may provide electronic markings as an alternative to the physical markings if they provide the same level of information. A utility operator may require that the excavator provide physical markings following submission of electronic marking.

Effective August 1, 2024, black markings may be used on-site during wintery conditions.

Job activities prior to ticket expiration:

Beginning August 1, 2024, “activities in the proposed area of excavation or boundary survey must take place before the expiration date and time on the notification.”

Meet requirements for large projects:

Effective August 1, 2024, locate requests to Gopher State One Call that involve excavation of one mile or more in length will require a “Meet” ticket. This is a meeting to take place on site to discuss the proposed excavation, schedule utility locates, and share other necessary information about the project.

The meeting must take place at least 48 hours after the request. Meet times will continue to be set between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and holidays.

An affected facility operator must attend the meet or contact the excavator before the meet and reschedule or reach a mutual agreement that the meet is not required. The excavation start time on the site must be at least 48 hours after the meeting. Both 48-hour periods exclude weekends and holidays.

Documentation regarding the meeting must be provided to Gopher State One Call. [**CLICK HERE to access a meet document and instructions on how to upload it, available on the GSOC website.**](#)

Preliminary design and preconstruction meetings:

Ticket Type used is Eng/Pre-Con Meet.

Effective August 1, 2024, preliminary design meetings held during the design phase of a project must include a project scope and timeline. Project owners are required to provide project start dates, duration information, and scope of work. Affected facility operators must attend these meetings.

These same requirements apply to pre-construction meetings. Additionally, affected facility operators and contractors must attend preconstruction meetings. The utility quality level definition in the state law was also updated to reflect the updated version of ASCE/UESI/CI 38-22 Standard Guideline for

Investigating and Documenting Existing Utilities. The law will allow for automatic adoption of further updates to this standard.

Reporting requirements for utility operators:

Effective August 1, 2024, operators must provide a report to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Pipeline Safety (MNOPS) each quarter. This report must include the number of notification requests by type, the percentages of notifications marked on-time as well as the number of utility damages that occurred by cause. Operators with fewer than 5,000 notifications from the previous year (other than pipeline companies) are exempt from these reporting requirements. State law prohibits MNOPS from initiating an enforcement action based on reporting data. MNOPS will publish the data from the reporting on an annual basis.

Updates to utility marking requirements:

Beginning on August 1, 2024, utility operators must provide a combination of flags, stakes, or whiskers to complement paint markings. The name of utility operator must be provided on each flag, stake, or whisker.

Collection of geospatial information:

Effective January 1, 2026, utility operators with 10,000 or more customers *“must use geospatial location information or an equivalent technology to develop as-built drawings of newly installed or newly abandoned facilities if exposed in the excavation area.”* For utility companies with 10,000 or less customers (in calendar year 2025), the implementation period begins on January 1, 2027.

For additional information on MN statute 216D, visit the [MN.gov website](#) or [GSOC’s quick reference guide](#).