



COMPLETE UTILITY LOCATING SYSTEM

GAS UTILITIES

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Preparation

1. Access of the tracer wire system for locating purposes shall be provided at maximum intervals as appropriate. Access shall be provided by the following:
 1. At-grade access point
 2. Above-grade access point
 3. Meter riser protective direct connect access point
2. Access through valve box is not allowed.
3. System shall not be looped. Looping of tracer wire can result in difficulty for locating as the signal is nullified.
4. Continuous wire installations that have multiple wires laid side-by-side or in close proximity to one another shall not be allowed.

Installation

1. Install tracer wire along the pipe above or to the side of the pipe. Contact with the pipe is allowed but shall be minimized. Recommended 2" – 6" separation. B. Install tracer wire as a single continuous wire. Splicing of wire, if necessary, shall be done in such a way to produce an electrically and mechanically sound joint.
2. Damage to the wire occurring during installation shall be immediately repaired by removing the damaged wire and installing a new section of wire with approved connectors.
3. Grounding
 1. Tracer wire must be properly grounded at all dead ends/stubs.
 2. Grounding shall be achieved by use of a 1.5 pound, drive-in magnesium ground rod with a minimum of 20 feet of lead wire.
 3. If grounding the tracer wire at the meter, two-terminal access points are required to accommodate both the tracer wire and the ground rod wire, and to allow for locates to be done from the meter or toward the meter.
 4. When ground rod wire will be connected to a tracer wire access point, a minimum of 2 feet of slack wire is required after meeting final elevation.
4. Long runs, more than 2,500 linear feet, without service laterals – tracer wire access must be provided utilizing an approved at-grade Copperhead SnakePit Access Point and grounded at dead-ends utilizing a drive-in magnesium Copperhead Ground Rod.
5. No bare tracer wire shall be exposed either below or above ground. Exposed ends such as at meter risers are not allowed and shall be protected from exposure.
6. Tracer wire shall not be taped to pipe.
7. Tracer wire shall not be wrapped around pipe.
8. Tracer wire shall not be connected to existing foreign/conduction utilities.
9. Non-locking friction fit, wire nut, spray-on waterproofing or taped connectors shall not be used.

Testing

1. Verify tracer wire installation by using typical low frequency (512 HZ or similar) line locating equipment.
2. Verification shall be witnessed by the utility or their designated representative.
3. Verify tracer wire installation upon completion of rough grading and again prior to final acceptance of project.
4. Continuity testing of the tracer wire system in lieu of using locating equipment shall not be accepted.

