

Safety & Damage Prevention

...Putting it all together

Stakeholder Advocacy



Stakeholder Advocacy Committee Resource Guide

Introduction

The Common Ground Alliance (CGA) is a member-driven association dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices. In recent years, the CGA has established itself as the leading organization in an effort to reduce damages to all underground facilities in North America through shared responsibility among all stakeholders. In 2012, the CGA established the Stakeholder Advocacy Committee to proactively work with local stakeholders to educate state policymakers and other authorities regarding use of CGA best practices and other resources to positively impact state/federal legislation and/or regulations under consideration.

Available Resources

Since its establishment in 2000, the CGA has developed and collected a broad range of materials that local stakeholders can utilize in efforts to improve damage prevention laws and regulations. The following is a list of such material.

CGA Best Practices: All best practices, practice statements with supporting description, and all new practices published at least three months prior to the publication date.

Best Practices Archive: Each version of the Best Practices is posted beginning with the 1999 Common Ground Study through the most recent version of the Best Practices Guide.

PowerPoint Presentation: CGA Outline of Stakeholder Advocacy Effort.

811 Program: "811" is the three-digit number to call before you dig. The CGA's 811 campaign materials and tool kits are free to download and use by CGA stakeholders, national launch partners and professional excavators.

Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT): A secure web application for the collection, reporting, and dissemination of underground damage information.

Locate Accurately: Materials to enhance existing outreach programs for the locating community.

Damage Prevention Safety Videos: A series of CGA safety videos to assist with educating the public and professionals on the importance of digging safely, including an overview of CGA's 811 campaign as well as the "5 steps to safer digging." Target audiences include homeowners or inexperienced diggers to experienced or professional excavators.

Other Educational Programs: A variety of educational materials that focus on communicating damage prevention messages and educating stakeholders on the Best Practices to audiences such as the agriculture community.

OCSI Resource Guide: One-Call Systems International (OCSI) promotes facility damage prevention and infrastructure protection through education, guidance and assistance to one call centers internationally. The OCSI Resource Guide includes one call center contacts and state-specific information.

CGA Regional Partners: The Regional Partner Program provides an effective local forum for all stakeholders to discuss best practices in damage prevention. CGA Regional Partners currently include over 60 organizations in the United States and Canada, providing local stakeholders with existing local, regional, and state damage prevention programs to promote communication about damage prevention Best Practices.

PowerPoint Presentation: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) update (October, 2012)