

Preparing for your Choptank Fiber Installation

Locating and marking **underground wires and pipes** is the responsibility of the person or company that owns that wire or pipe. When you contract with Choptank Fiber to have underground fiber installed from the roadway to your house, **you bear significant responsibility** in locating and marking things buried on your property.

For instance, the location of underground electric pet fences, underground sprinklers, electricity running from your house to your pool, septic system, well, or outbuilding must be marked in advance.

When Choptank begins planning the path from the roadway to your house, we call 811, Maryland's Miss Utility Service. Miss Utility notifies all potential owners of commercial underground facilities (electric, phone, internet or gas distribution mains). Companies like Choptank Electric Cooperative, Delmarva Power, Chesapeake Gas, Verizon and Comcast will send their contractors out to mark the distribution lines they own with red, yellow and orange spray paint.

What those **contractors do not mark** is any privately owned wires or pipes on your property. Again, that is septic systems, wells, underground fuel tanks and connections to the house, sprinkler systems, electric pet fencing and electric to outbuildings, pools, wells and septic systems.

When you meet with the Choptank Fiber engineering "staker" to determine the best route from the road to your home for the fiber installation, **you agree to locate and mark all private underground wires and pipes** on your property immediately because our workers will arrive in a matter of days to dig the path. You even sign a document acknowledging your responsibility and accepting all financial cost for repair should you fail to mark something that is harmed during the installation. If you know you are on the path to receiving Choptank Fiber broadband, you can start to locate your private facilities well in advance of our visit so you can **be prepared**.

If you are unsure of the location of your private wires and pipes you can search online for "**private utility locating companies in Maryland.**" You may also be able to locate your well or septic system through your county's environmental health office. These offices keep maps of well and septic locations (that are not too old) and are required by law to respond to your request within 10 days. Printed below is the list of contacts for county environmental health offices. But remember, you may still need to call other contractors to locate sprinklers systems and electricity to pet fences, sheds, pools and other outbuildings.

Caroline County

(410) 479-8045

Caroline Co. Health Dept.

403 S. 7th Street, Rm 248

Denton, MD 21629

8:30am – 4:00pm M-F

Email:

Erica.Plank@Maryland.gov

Cecil County

(410) 996-5160

Cecil Co. Health Dept.

401 Bow Street

Elkton, MD 21921

8:00am – 5:00pm M-F

Email:

CCHD.ehs@Maryland.gov

[PDF Request Form](#)

Dorchester County

(410) 228-1167

Dorchester Co. Health Dept.

3 Cedar Street

Cambridge, MD 21613

8:00am – 5:00pm M-F

Email:

DCHD.environmental@Maryland.gov

[PDF Request Form](#)

Kent County

(410) 778-1350
 Kent Co. Health Dept.
 125 South Lynchburg St
 Chestertown, MD 21620
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email only to:

Kchd.environmental_health@Maryland.gov

Queen Anne’s County

(410) 758-2281
 Queen Anne’s Co. Health Dept.
 206 N. Commerce St.
 Centreville, MD 21617
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email only to:

gac.env@Maryland.gov

Somerset County

(443) 523-1700
 Somerset Co. Health Dept.
 8928 Sign Post Rd., Suite 2
 Westover, MD 21871
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email or send PDF

joseph.spangler@Maryland.gov or
Somerset.environmental@Maryland.gov
[PDF Request Form](#)

Talbot County

(410) 770-6880
 Talbot Co. Health Dept.
 100 S. Hanson Street
 Easton, MD 21601
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email only to:

Sheryl.Groce@Maryland.gov

Wicomico County

(410) 546-4446
 Wicomico Co. Health Dept.
 108 E. Main Street
 Salisbury, MD 21801
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email or send PDF:

[PDF Request Form](#)
Wicomico.environmentalhealth@Maryland.gov

Worcester County

(410) 632-1220
 Worcester Co. Gov’t Center
 1 West Market St., Room 1306
 Snow Hill, MD 21863
 8:00am – 5:00pm M-F
 Email or PDF:

[PDF Request Form](#)

kmarsh@co.worcester.md.us

If a PDF Request Form is available, many counties require you to use it. When sending an email request to the County Environmental Health Office please use this format:

To: County Environmental Health Officer email address (i.e., erica.plank@Maryland.gov)

CC:

Subject: **URGENT** – XXX Road Name (your property address)

Please provide a map locating the septic and well on my property. This request is regarding work with Choptank Electric Cooperative/Choptank Fiber and our need to locate well and septic before work commences on the property. Thank you.

Pre-plan to be Prepared. We look forward to bringing you the best broadband on the Shore!