

PART MI503 - SAFETY

SUBPART A - ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES AFFECTING UTILITIES

MI503.04(f)

MI503.04 Buried Utilities.

(a) The Michigan law pertaining to construction activities near utilities (P.A. 53 of 1974, as amended, Protection of Underground Facilities) requires actions that differ from those described in NEM 503.04. Since the Michigan requirements are equivalent in effectiveness, the procedures described in this Michigan amendment supersede those contained in NEM 503.04. This action is taken in accordance with NEM 503.06.

(b) NRCS-Michigan employees in Michigan providing assistance related to construction activities near utilities will follow the requirements of Michigan P.A. 53 of 1974, as amended, "Protection of Underground Facilities," commonly known as the MISS DIG law. Specific actions to take are described in items (c) through (g) below.

(c) The cover sheet for all construction drawings must contain the following notes:

(1) MISS DIG (1-800-482-7171) must be contacted at least three working days before construction begins if: (i) the construction equipment will not be able to maintain at least a 10 foot clearance from any overhead electric lines within the work area or (ii) the construction activities involve any excavation, drilling or boring operations or discharge of explosives in or adjacent to a street, highway, other public place, in a private easement for a public utility, or near the location of utility facilities.

(2) For sites where MISS DIG must be contacted, the landowner/operator is responsible to ensure that the excavator/contractor contacts MISS DIG. The excavator/contractor must be able to provide the MISS DIG ticket number within 24 hours upon request by the NRCS-Michigan inspector.

(3) The landowner/operator is responsible for locating any buried utilities (water lines, electric lines, telephone lines, gas lines, sewer lines, etc.) in the work area that are not covered by the MISS DIG program.

(4) NRCS-Michigan makes no representation of the existence or nonexistence of utilities. The presence or absence of utilities on the construction drawings does not assure that there are or are not utilities in the work area.

(d) The cover sheet for all construction drawings must clearly show the MISS DIG logo and telephone number.

(e) The responsible NRCS-Michigan employee must inform the landowner/operator of their responsibilities by reviewing the notes on the cover sheet with them. The landowner/operator must sign the cover sheet acknowledging that they understand their responsibilities.

(f) For sites where MISS DIG must be contacted, the landowner/operator is responsible to inform the excavator/contractor of their responsibilities by providing them a copy of the cover sheet. The excavator/contractor must sign the cover sheet acknowledging that they understand their responsibilities and the landowner/operator must return the signed cover sheet to the NRCS-Michigan employee or office providing assistance.

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MI503.04(g)

(g) If the landowner/operator and/or the excavator/contractor fail to carry out any of their responsibilities, the responsible NRCS-Michigan employee must request that corrective action be taken. If corrective action is not taken in a timely manner, the responsible NRCS-Michigan employee must: (1) notify the landowner/operator that assistance is immediately terminated for this practice and will not be resumed until the corrective action is taken, (2) leave the site, and (3) document their action in the case file records. Any construction performed while assistance is terminated will not be certified without state conservation engineer approval.

(h) The utility notification postcard (Form SCS-ENG-5) procedure described in NEM 503.04(a)(5) is not required in Michigan.

MI503.05 Checklist.

The checklist (Form SCS-ENG-6) procedure described in NEM 503.05 is not required in Michigan. The Michigan requirements for construction activities near utilities as described in NEM MI503.04 will provide a signed record of actions taken. This Michigan procedure is equivalent in effectiveness to the checklist described in NEM 503.05.

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SUBPART D - SAFETY AT CONSTRUCTION SITES

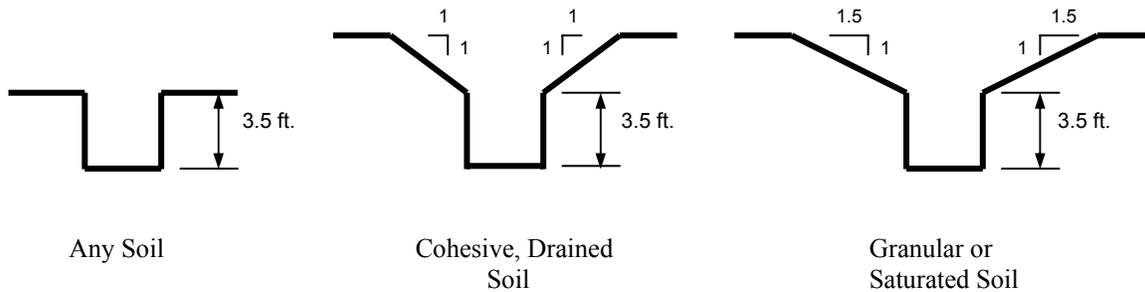
MI503.30(e)

MI503.30 Michigan Construction Safety Policy

(a) NRCS-Michigan employees providing assistance at construction sites must ensure that this safety policy is followed. This policy is superseded only for formal construction contracts where construction safety is specifically addressed in the contract. This policy is consistent with Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Construction Industry Standards.

(b) For NRCS-Michigan designed conservation practices that involve excavation to a depth greater than 3.5 feet, one of the following notes shall be clearly shown on the construction drawings: (1) "Excavated side slopes are not stable and people are not allowed in the excavation."; (2) "Excavated side slopes above the 3.5 foot depth shall be no steeper than 1 horizontal to 1 vertical in cohesive or dense fine grained, drained soils and 1-1/2 horizontal to 1 vertical in granular and/or saturated soils."; or (3) "Excavated side slopes are not stable and people are not allowed in the excavation unless shielding or shoring of the side slopes is provided. Plans for shielding or shoring the side slopes must be approved by the state conservation engineer prior to their installation."

(c) Under no circumstance is anyone at the site allowed to enter excavations greater than 3.5 feet deep unless: (1) excavated side slopes above the 3.5 foot depth are 1 horizontal to 1 vertical or flatter in cohesive or dense fine grained, drained soils; (2) excavated side slopes above the 3.5 foot depth are not steeper than 1.5 horizontal to 1 vertical in granular and/or saturated soils; or (3) state conservation engineer approved shielding or shoring is installed. Cross sections of acceptable excavations are shown below.



(d) Contractors must be informed prior to commencing construction that the contractor is responsible for knowing and following the appropriate safety standards required by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(e) Hard hats must be worn by anyone on the site who may be exposed to falling objects or flying debris and anyone within the operating range of overhead construction equipment. Overhead construction equipment includes, but is not limited to, backhoes, cranes, draglines, and front-end loaders. Equipment operators within enclosed cabs and individuals in enclosed vehicles are not required to wear hard hats.

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MI503.30(f)

(f) Any potential hazard or unsafe condition observed on the site must be reported to the landowner, operator, sponsor, or contractor, as appropriate. The responsible NRCS-Michigan employee must request that the landowner, operator, sponsor, or contractor take appropriate action to correct the potential hazard or unsafe condition. If corrective action is not taken in a timely manner, the responsible NRCS-Michigan employee must: (1) notify the landowner/operator that technical assistance is immediately terminated for this practice and will not be resumed until the corrective action is taken, (2) leave the site, and (3) document their action in the case file records. Any construction performed while assistance is terminated will not be certified without state conservation engineer approval.