



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Pursuant to G.L. c. 82A §1 and 520 CMR 14.00 et seq.
(as amended)

Town of Ashburnham
32 Main Street
Ashburnham, MA 01432

TRENCH PERMIT APPLICATION

This Section For Official Use Only

Permit Number: _____
Dig Safe Number : _____

Date Issued: _____

Signature: _____
or [Permitting authority]

SECTION 1 - SITE INFORMATION

1.1 Property Address:

Street Name _____
Zip Code _____
City / Town _____

1.3 Description, location and purpose of proposed trench:

1.4 Anticipated Date to Begin Trench Operation

1.5 Anticipated Date Conclude Trench Operation

1.2 Map Number _____ Lot/Parcel Number _____
Builder's Lot No _____ Block _____

SECTION 2 - PROPERTY OWNERSHIP AND PERMIT HOLDER INFORMATION

2.1 Owner of Record:

Name: (Print) _____ Address : _____
Signature _____ Telephone: _____

2.2 Excavator Permit Holder Information:

Name: (Print) _____ Address _____
Signature: _____ Telephone: /Emergency Contact Number _____

2.3 Name and Contact Information of Insurer:

Company Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
Insurance Certificate #: _____ Policy Expiration Date _____

CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO G.L.C.82A AND 520 CMR 14.00 et seq. (as amended)

By signing the application, the applicant/excavator understands and agrees to comply with the following:

- i. No trench may be excavated unless the requirements of sections 40 through 40D of chapter 82, and any accompanying regulations, have been met and this permit is invalid unless and until said requirements have been complied with by the excavator applying for the permit including, but not limited to, the establishment of a valid excavation number with the underground plant damage prevention system as said system is defined in section 76D of chapter 164 (DIG SAFE);
- ii. Trenches may pose a significant health and safety hazard. Pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 82 of the General Laws, an excavator shall not leave any open trench unattended without first making every reasonable effort to eliminate any recognized safety hazard that may exist as a result of leaving said open trench unattended. Excavators should consult regulations promulgated by the Department of Public Safety in order to familiarize themselves with the recognized safety hazards associated with excavations and open trenches and the procedures required or recommended by said department in order to make every reasonable effort to eliminate said safety hazards which may include covering, barricading or otherwise protecting open trenches from accidental entry.
- iii. Persons engaging in any in any trenching operation shall familiarize themselves with the federal safety standards promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration on excavations: 29 CFR 1926.650 et.seq., entitled Subpart P "Excavations".
- iv. Excavators engaging in any trenching operation who utilize hoisting or other mechanical equipment subject to chapter 146 shall only employ individuals licensed to operate said equipment by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to said chapter and this permit must be presented to said licensed operator before any excavation is commenced;
- v. By applying for, accepting and signing this permit, the applicant hereby attests to the following: (1) that they have read and understands the regulations promulgated by the Department of Public Safety with regard to construction related excavations and trench safety; (2) that he has read and understands the federal safety standards promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration on excavations: 29 CFR 1926.650 et.seq., entitled Subpart P "Excavations" as well as any other excavation requirements established by this municipality; and (3) that he is aware of and has, with regard to the proposed trench excavation on private property or proposed excavation of a city or town public way that forms the basis of the permit application, complied with the requirements of sections 40-40D of chapter 82A.

The permit shall be posted in plain view on the site of the trench.

Summary of Excavation and Trench Safety Regulation (520 CMR 14.00 et seq.)

This summary was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety pursuant to G.L.c.82A and does not include all requirements of the 520 CMR 14.00. To view the full regulation and G.L.c.82A, go to [www/mass.gov/dps](http://www.mass.gov/dps)

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 82, § 1, the Department of Public Safety, jointly with the Division of Occupational Safety, drafted regulations relative to trench safety. The regulation is codified in section 14.00 of title 520 of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations. The regulation requires all excavators to obtain a permit prior to the excavation of a trench made for a construction-related purpose on public or private land or rights-of-way. All municipalities must establish a local permitting authority for the purpose of issuing permits for trenches within their municipality. Trenches on land owned or controlled by a public (state) agency requires a permit to be issued by that public agency unless otherwise designated.

In addition to the permitting requirements mandated by statute, the trench safety regulations require that all excavators, whether public or private, take specific precautions to protect the general public and prevent unauthorized access to unattended trenches. Accordingly, unattended trenches must be covered, barricaded or backfilled. Covers must be road plates at least ¾" thick or equivalent; barricades must be fences at least 6' high with no openings greater than 4" between vertical supports or openings greater than 4" may be protected by solid guards or suitable materials, including plywood or wood planks; backfilling must be sufficient to eliminate the trench. Alternatively, excavators may choose to attend trenches at all times, for instance by hiring a police detail, security guard or other attendant who will be present during times when the trench will be unattended by the excavator.

The regulations further provide that local permitting authorities, the Department of Public Safety, or the Division of Occupational Safety may order an immediate shutdown of a trench in the event of a death or serious injury; the failure to obtain a permit; or the failure to implement or effectively use adequate protections for the general public. The trench shall remain shutdown until re-inspected and authorized to re-open provided, however, the excavators shall have the right to appeal an immediate shutdown. Re-inspection must occur within tow (2) business days of written notifications by the excavator to the Permitting Authority that it has complied with all repairs/corrections ordered. Permitting authorities

April '09

are further authorized to suspend or revoke a permit following a hearing. Excavators may also be subject to administrative fines issued by the Department of Public Safety for identified violations.

SUGGESTED CHECKLIST FOR APPLICATION

- Worker's Compensation Certificate
- Insurance Binder from Insurance Company made out to the Town of Grafton
- Photo Identification of Permit Holder
- Photo Identification of Person Performing Excavation
- Dig Safe Number
- All monies due to the town must be paid (Certificate of Good Standing)

Information and Instructions

Massachusetts General Laws chapter 152 requires all employers to provide workers' compensation for their employees. Pursuant to this statute, an *employee* is defined as "...every person in the service of another under any contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written."

An *employer* is defined as "an individual, partnership, association, corporation or other legal entity, or any two or more of the foregoing engaged in a joint enterprise, and including the legal representatives of a deceased employer, or the receiver or trustee of an individual, partnership, association or other legal entity, employing employees. However the owner of a dwelling house having not more than three apartments and who resides therein, or the occupant of the dwelling house of another who employs persons to do maintenance, construction or repair work on such dwelling house or on the grounds or building appurtenant thereto shall not because of such employment be deemed to be an employer."

MGL chapter 152, §25C(6) also states that "**every state or local licensing agency shall withhold the issuance or renewal of a license or permit to operate a business or to construct buildings in the commonwealth for any applicant who has not produced acceptable evidence of compliance with the insurance coverage required.**"

Additionally, MGL chapter 152, §25C(7) states "Neither the commonwealth nor any of its political subdivisions shall enter into any contract for the performance of public work until acceptable evidence of compliance with the insurance requirements of this chapter have been presented to the contracting authority."

Applicants

Please fill out the workers' compensation affidavit completely, by checking the boxes that apply to your situation and, if necessary, supply sub-contractor(s) name(s), address(es) and phone number(s) along with their certificate(s) of insurance. Limited Liability Companies (LLC) or Limited Liability Partnerships (LLP) with no employees other than the members or partners, are not required to carry workers' compensation insurance. If an LLC or LLP does have employees, a policy is required. Be advised that this affidavit may be submitted to the Department of Industrial Accidents for confirmation of insurance coverage. **Also be sure to sign and date the affidavit.** The affidavit should be returned to the city or town that the application for the permit or license is being requested, **not** the Department of Industrial Accidents. Should you have any questions regarding the law or if you are required to obtain a workers' compensation policy, please call the Department at the number listed below. Self-insured companies should enter their self-insurance license number on the appropriate line.

City or Town Officials

Please be sure that the affidavit is complete and printed legibly. The Department has provided a space at the bottom of the affidavit for you to fill out in the event the Office of Investigations has to contact you regarding the applicant. Please be sure to fill in the permit/license number which will be used as a reference number. In addition, an applicant that must submit multiple permit/license applications in any given year, need only submit one affidavit indicating current policy information (if necessary) and under "Job Site Address" the applicant should write "all locations in _____ (city or town)." A copy of the affidavit that has been officially stamped or marked by the city or town may be provided to the applicant as proof that a valid affidavit is on file for future permits or licenses. A new affidavit must be filled out each year. Where a home owner or citizen is obtaining a license or permit not related to any business or commercial venture (i.e. a dog license or permit to burn leaves etc.) said person is NOT required to complete this affidavit.

The Office of Investigations would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

The Department's address, telephone and fax number:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Industrial Accidents
Office of Investigations
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111

Tel. # 617-727-4900 ext 406 or 1-877-MASSAFE

Fax # 617-727-7749

www.mass.gov/dia



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Department of Industrial Accidents
 Office of Investigations
 600 Washington Street
 Boston, MA 02111
 www.mass.gov/dia

Workers' Compensation Insurance Affidavit: Builders/Contractors/Electricians/Plumbers
Applicant Information **Please Print Legibly**

Name (Business/Organization/Individual): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone #: _____

<p>Are you an employer? Check the appropriate box:</p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a employer with _____ employees (full and/or part-time).*</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a sole proprietor or partnership and have no employees working for me in any capacity. [No workers' comp. insurance required.]</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a homeowner doing all work myself. [No workers' comp. insurance required.] †</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a general contractor and I have hired the sub-contractors listed on the attached sheet. ‡ These sub-contractors have workers' comp. insurance.</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> We are a corporation and its officers have exercised their right of exemption per MGL c. 152, §1(4), and we have no employees. [No workers' comp. insurance required.]</p>	<p>Type of project (required):</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> New construction</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Remodeling</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> Demolition</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Building addition</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical repairs or additions</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing repairs or additions</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Roof repairs</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
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*Any applicant that checks box #1 must also fill out the section below showing their workers' compensation policy information.
 † Homeowners who submit this affidavit indicating they are doing all work and then hire outside contractors must submit a new affidavit indicating such.
 ‡Contractors that check this box must attached an additional sheet showing the name of the sub-contractors and their workers' comp. policy information.

I am an employer that is providing workers' compensation insurance for my employees. Below is the policy and job site information.

Insurance Company Name: _____

Policy # or Self-ins. Lic. #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Job Site Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Attach a copy of the workers' compensation policy declaration page (showing the policy number and expiration date).

Failure to secure coverage as required under Section 25A of MGL c. 152 can lead to the imposition of criminal penalties of a fine up to \$1,500.00 and/or one-year imprisonment, as well as civil penalties in the form of a STOP WORK ORDER and a fine of up to \$250.00 a day against the violator. Be advised that a copy of this statement may be forwarded to the Office of Investigations of the DIA for insurance coverage verification.

I do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone #: _____

Official use only. Do not write in this area, to be completed by city or town official.

City or Town: _____ Permit/License # _____

Issuing Authority (circle one):

1. Board of Health 2. Building Department 3. City/Town Clerk 4. Electrical Inspector 5. Plumbing Inspector

6. Other _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone #: _____