



Engineering Department

City of La Crosse

400 La Crosse Street

La Crosse, WI 54601-3396

608) 789-7505

FAX (608) 789-8184

Excavations and Openings Factsheet

- When is a permit needed?
 - Anytime you make any excavation or opening in the Right of Way which includes any street, alley, highway, boulevard or sidewalk.
- Cost
 - \$35
- Bond
 - Before permit can be issued, deposit with engineering department an Indemnity Bond of \$10,000.00.
- Insurance
 - Carry comprehensive General Liability Insurance and completed Operations Insurance.
 - Minimum combined single limit of \$500,000 for bodily injury & property damage per occurrence.
 - The insurance required shall be written by insurance companies who are rated "B" or better in Best's Key Rating Guide and shall be licensed to do business in the state of Wisconsin.
 - The Certificate of Insurance MUST name the City of La Crosse as Additional Insured.
- Regulations
 - No openings when ground is frozen except in emergencies.
 - Opening shall be enclosed with sufficient barriers .
 - All necessary precautions shall be taken to guard the public effectively from accidents or damage to persons or property.
 - Temporary traffic control shall be provided and maintained by the applicant and shall comply with Part 6 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
 - All materials removed or penetrated must be replaced as soon as possible to their original condition and be maintained for 3 years.
 - Backfilling the opening, material shall be placed in maximum 12 inch lifts with each lift thoroughly compacted by mechanical means to a 95% of standard proctor density.
 - Excavations in streets paved in the last 5 years are prohibited except in the case of emergencies determined by the Board of Public Works.
 - Emergency excavations are authorized for any person / agency owning or controlling any sewer, water main, conduit, or utility. You may take immediate proper emergency measures to remedy dangerous conditions for the protection of property, life, health, or safety without first obtaining an excavation permit; provided that such person shall apply for an excavation permit not later than the end of the next succeeding business day.