

providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to liability for certain damages due to excavation or demolition.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Utility Companies

Section 12-101 and 12-104

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Volume and 2000 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Utility Companies

Section 12-109

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Volume and 2000 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Utility Companies

12-101.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) (1) “Contractor” means a person that performs excavations or demolitions.

(2) “Contractor” includes a person that performs excavations or demolitions under a contract or subcontract.

(c) “Demolition” means an operation in which a structure or mass of material is wrecked, razed, rended, moved, or removed using any tool, equipment, or explosive.

(d) (1) “Excavation” means an operation in which earth, rock, or other material in or on the ground is moved, removed, or otherwise displaced by using any tool, equipment, or explosive.

(2) “Excavation” includes grading, trenching, digging, ditching, drilling, augering, tunnelling, scraping, cable or pipe plowing and driving a mass of material.

(e) “One-call system” means a communications network in the State that allows a person to telephone a one-number utility protection system.

(f) (1) “Owner” means a person that:

(i) owns or operates an underground facility; and

(ii) has the right to bury an underground facility.

(2) “Owner” includes:

(i) a public utility;