



City of Easthampton
Permit issued by: Dept. of Public Works
50 Payson Ave Ste. 110
Easthampton, MA 01027
Phone 413-529-1410
Fax 413-529-1490
dpw@easthamptonma.gov

Permit Number: _____
Date Issued: _____
Expiration Date: **30 days from issue**
Fee: \$150.00

TRENCH PERMIT
Pursuant to G.L. c. 82A §1 and 520 CMR 7.00 et seq.(as amended)

THIS PERMIT MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION

Name of Applicant			Phone		Cell	
Street Address						
City/Town		MA	ZIP			
Name of Excavator (if different from applicant)			Phone		Cell	
Street Address						
City/Town		MA	ZIP			
Name of Owner(s) of Property			Phone		Cell	
Street Address						
City/Town		MA	ZIP			
Other Contact			Permit Fee Received No () Yes ()			
Description, location and purpose of proposed trench: Please describe the exact location of the proposed trench and its purpose. Include a description of what is/is intended to be laid in the proposed trench (ex: pipes/cable lines etc.) Please use the reverse side if additional space is needed.						
Insurance Certificate #:						
Name and Contact Information of Insurer:						
Policy Expiration Date:						
Dig Safe #:						
Name of Competent Person (as defined by 520 CMR 7.02):						
Massachusetts Hoisting License # _____			Expiration Date:			
License Grade:						

BY SIGNING THIS FORM, THE APPLICANT, OWNER, AND EXCAVATOR ALL ACKNOWLEDGE AND CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE FAMILIAR WITH, OR, BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WORK, WILL BECOME FAMILIAR WITH, ALL LAWS AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO WORK PROPOSED, INCLUDING OSHA REGULATIONS, G.L. c. 82A, 520 CMR 7.00 et seq., AND ANY APPLICABLE MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS AND THEY COVENANT AND AGREE THAT ALL WORK DONE UNDER THE PERMIT ISSUED FOR SUCH WORK WILL COMPLY THEREWITH IN ALL RESPECTS AND WITH THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH BELOW.

THE UNDERSIGNED OWNER AUTHORIZES THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR THE PERMIT AND THE EXCAVATOR TO UNDERTAKE SUCH WORK ON THE PROPERTY OF THE OWNER, AND ALSO, FOR THE DURATION OF CONSTRUCTION, AUTHORIZES PERSONS DULY APPOINTED BY THE MUNICIPALITY TO ENTER UPON THE PROPERTY TO MONITOR AND INSPECT THE WORK FOR CONFORMITY WITH THE CONDITIONS ATTACHED HERETO AND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SUCH WORK.

THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT, OWNER AND EXCAVATOR AGREE JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY TO REIMBURSE THE MUNICIPALITY FOR ANY AND ALL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE MUNICIPALITY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PERMIT AND THE WORK CONDUCTED THEREUNDER, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ENFORCING THE REQUIREMENTS OF STATE LAW AND CONDITIONS OF THIS PERMIT, INSPECTIONS MADE TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE THEREWITH, AND MEASURES TAKEN BY THE MUNICIPALITY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WHERE THE APPLICANT OWNER OR EXCAVATOR HAS FAILED TO COMPLY THEREWITH INCLUDING POLICE DETAILS AND OTHER REMEDIAL MEASURES DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE MUNICIPALITY.

THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT, OWNER AND EXCAVATOR AGREE JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY TO DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE MUNICIPALITY AND ALL OF ITS AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CAUSES OR ACTION, COSTS, AND EXPENSES RESULTING FROM OR ARISING OUT OF ANY INJURY, DEATH, LOSS, OR DAMAGE TO ANY PERSON OR PROPERTY DURING THE WORK CONDUCTED UNDER THIS PERMIT.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

_____ **DATE** _____

EXCAVATOR SIGNATURE (IF DIFFERENT)

_____ **DATE** _____

OWNER'S SIGNATURE (IF DIFFERENT)

_____ **DATE:** _____

For City/Town use -- Do not write in this section	
Department of Public Works Permitting Authority	
Approved by:	
Date	
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL	

By signing the application, the applicant 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.
- vi. This 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

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; 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, that excavators shall have the right to appeal an immediate shutdown. Permitting authorities 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.

For additional information please visit the Department of Public Safety’s website at www.mass.gov/dps

Summary of 1926 CFR Subpart P -OSHA Excavation Standard

This is a worker protection standard, and is designed to protect employees who are working inside a trench. This summary was prepared by the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety and not OSHA for informational purposes only and does not constitute an official interpretation by OSHA of their regulations, and may not include all aspects of the standard.

For further information or a full copy of the standard go to www.osha.gov.

- **Trench Definition per the OSHA standard:**
 - An excavation made below the surface of the ground, narrow in relation to its length.
 - In general, the depth is greater than the width, but the width of the trench is not greater than fifteen feet.
- **Protective Systems** to prevent soil wall collapse are always required in trenches deeper than 5', and are also required in trenches less than 5' deep when the competent person determines that a hazard exists. Protection options include:
 - Shoring. Shoring must be used in accordance with the OSHA Excavation standard appendices, the equipment manufacturer's tabulated data, or designed by a registered professional engineer.
 - Shielding (Trench Boxes). Trench boxes must be used in accordance with the equipment manufacturer's tabulated data, or a registered professional engineer.
 - Sloping or Benching. In Type C soils (what is most typically encountered) the excavation must extend horizontally 1 ½ feet for every foot of trench depth on both sides, 1 foot for Type B soils, and ¾ foot for Type A soils.
 - A registered professional engineer must design protective systems for all excavations greater than 20' in depth.
- **Ladders** must be used in trenches deeper than 4'.
 - Ladders must be inside the trench with workers at all times, and located within 25' of unobstructed lateral travel for every worker in the trench.
 - Ladders must extend 3' above the top of the trench so workers can safely get onto and off of the ladder.
- **Inspections** of every trench worksite are required:
 - Prior to the start of each shift, and again when there is a change in conditions such as a rainstorm.
 - Inspections must be conducted by the competent person (see below).
- **Competent Person(s) is:**
 - Capable (i.e., trained and knowledgeable) in identifying existing and predictable hazards in the trench, and other working conditions which may pose a hazard to workers, and
 - Authorized by management to take necessary corrective action to eliminate the hazards. Employees must be removed from hazardous areas until the hazard has been corrected.
- **Underground Utilities** must be:
 - Identified prior to opening the excavation (e.g., contact Digsafe).
 - Located by safe and acceptable means while excavating.
 - Protected, supported, or removed once exposed.
- **Spoils** must be kept back a minimum of 2' from the edge of the trench.
- **Surface Encumbrances** creating a hazard must be removed or supported to safeguard employees. Keep heavy equipment and heavy material as far back from the edge of the trench as possible.
- **Stability of Adjacent Structures:**
 - Where the stability of adjacent structures is endangered by creation of the trench, they must be underpinned, braced, or otherwise supported.
 - Sidewalks, pavements, etc. shall not be undermined unless a support system or other method of protection is provided.
- **Protection from water accumulation hazards:**
 - It is not allowable for employees to work in trenches with accumulated water. If water control such as pumping is used to prevent water accumulation, this must be monitored by the competent person.
 - If the trench interrupts natural drainage of surface water, ditches, dikes or other means must be used to prevent this water from entering the excavation.
- **Additional Requirements:**
 - For mobile equipment operated near the edge of the trench, a warning system such as barricades or stop logs must be used.
 - Employees are not permitted to work underneath loads. Operators may not remain in vehicles being loaded unless vehicles are equipped with adequate protection as per 1926.601(b)(6).
 - Employees must wear high-visibility clothing in traffic work zones.
 - Air monitoring must be conducted in trenches deeper than 4' if the potential for a hazardous atmosphere exists. If a hazardous atmosphere is found to exist (e.g., O₂ <19.5% or >23.5%, 20% LEL, specific chemical hazard), adequate protections shall be taken such as ventilation of the space.
 - Walkways are required where employees must cross over the trench. Walkways with guardrails must be provided for crossing over trenches > 6' deep.
 - Employees must be protected from loose rock or soil through protections such as scaling or protective barricades.

City of Easthampton Additional Trench Requirements

- 1. Certificate of Insurance must be on file with the Department of Public Works. Minimum coverage of \$100,000 property damage and a minimum of \$100,000 to \$300,000 bodily injuries are required.**
- 2. Permit must be obtained at least seventy- two (72) hours prior to commencing work.**
- 3. Repairs in pavement shall be sawcut at least twelve (12) inches back from the edge of excavation before patching.**
- 4. Back fill using the same excavated material shall be placed in not more than six (6) inch layers and mechanically tamped to a minimum of ninety-five (95) percent compaction (ASTM Density Degree of Compaction). No gravel should be mixed with this material. When the same backfill cannot be used, sand or gravel material with the following criteria is allowed.**

<u>Sieve Size</u>	<u>Percent Finer by Weight</u>
1 ½ - inch	100
½-inch	50 - 85
No. 4	40 - 75
No. 10	----
No. 40	10 - 35
No. 200	0 - 8

- a) **Maximum grain size shall be four (4) inches where placed as base below slab and pavement. A maximum grain size of eight (8) inches is allowed everywhere else.**
- b) **The amount passing the No. 100 sieve should be between forty (40%) and seventy (70%) of the amount passing the No. 40 sieve**

The top twelve (12) inches of backfill shall consist of two (2) 6 inch compacted layers of processed gravel. Surface materials shall consist of two and half (2 ½) inches of binder and one (1) inch of Type I bituminous concrete. All edges of area to be patched shall be primed to assure a good bond between the new and old materials.

- 5. Lights, barricades, fences, or other measures shall be used to protect the traveling public either on foot or in vehicles. If police officers are necessary, the permittee shall furnish such police at their own expense. Said officers are to be detailed by the Easthampton Police Dept. 413-527-1212 Ext. 0**
- 6. Tree belts should be restored to as good or better condition than those found at the start of this work by the permittee. Any loam, seed, fertilizer, peat moss, or erosion control found necessary to accomplish these requirements shall be at NO expense to the City of Easthampton.**
- 7. The City of Easthampton Tree Warden, or his agent, must grant prior approval for the trimming removal or replacement of any existing tree or shrub within any street or tree belt.
Tree Warden George Melega 413-529-1440**

8. The above back filling regulations are for general conditions. Where road pavement has a base other than gravel, special conditions shall be met as set forth by Department of Public Works.

9. In the case of underground cable, electric lines, or gas mains these specifications shall govern:

a) Each utility company shall have a full-time inspector on the work site at all times.

b) When deemed necessary by the Director of Public Works, the utility company/or company shall pay for inspection services by the City at the going inspection rate established by the City Of Easthampton.

10. In the case of a newly paved road or reconstructed road, no street openings will be allowed for a period of five (5) years, except in the case of emergency.

11. Dig Safe must be notified at 1-888-344-7233 as outlined in MA General Laws Chapter 82 Section 40.

12. Except for an emergency, no permits will be granted to allow the excavation of a roadway from November 1st thru April 1st.