

# GENERAL INFORMATION

The ORCGA is pleased to offer our members and the public an opportunity to recognize the significant knowledge and expertise required to complete the complicated task of locating underground facilities throughout our province.

With the assistance of numerous subject matter experts, the Province of Ontario and Humber College we developed and launched a Damage Prevention Technician, DPT® Certification Program. The program combines:

- In-class instruction
- Field awareness review
- On-the-job competency assessment

The course provides instruction on the fundamentals of locating based on locating processes employed by specific industries. For those already involved in the industry, we ensure that they receive the same base material, recognizing that not all locators have received the same type of training. Based on observed skills, the employers provide the confirmation that the individual is performing their tasks in a competent manner.

The ORCGA is proud of the capable individuals who are performing this important work. We encourage them, true to their title of Damage Prevention Technician, to fully embrace their role in the prevention of damage.

# CLEARING THE WAY FOR EXCAVATORS TO DIG SAFELY



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# DAMAGE PREVENTION TECHNICIAN, DPT® PROGRAM



# DPT 100

This 40-hour (5 day) combined theory and technical training program will be of interest to existing utility locators, as well as those entering the locating business.



# DPT 200

The DPT 200 course is an advanced 24-hour (3 day) combined theory and technical training program designed specifically for utility locators with a minimum of three years direct industry locating experience. In order to qualify for this course, applicants must supply a signed letter from their employer, on company letterhead confirming that they have the required practical locating experience. This accelerated program covers the same material as the DPT100 but with a large portion of pre-work completed prior to class.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

**PART 1** of the Damage Prevention Technician, DPT™ program is open to anyone who wishes to complete the technical/theory course.

**PART 2**, the practical component, is open to individuals who are employed by a company that is a member of ORCGA. Upon completion of Part 2, the individual may apply for the Damage Prevention Technician, DPT® certification.

In order to be considered competent to locate buried utilities, an individual must be able to demonstrate that they understand a combination of fundamental principals of locating, proper operation of the equipment they are using, as well as an excellent grasp of the subtleties of locating the many and varied types of buried conductors.

While there are many similarities between them, the different utility categories require different skills to successfully perform a locate. For that reason, the program will identify the observable competencies within each of the following four groups:

**GAS/OIL** - To include all types of petrochemical, petroleum, gas gathering, transmission and distribution lines as well as casings.

**POWER** - To include all types of transmission (including oil filled or “pipe type” cables), distribution, service, lighting, control and alarm lines as well as conduit, empty or utilized.

**TELECOM** - To include all types of telecommunication lines including telephone trunk or toll cables, service wires as well as CATV trunk, distribution and service lines, as well as conduit. Fiber optic cable locating will be included in this category, whether deployed by Telecom, Power or independent operators.

**WATER AND SEWER** - To include potable water, irrigation, cooling or steam lines as well as drainage lines of all types - sanitary, storm or irrigation.

## CERTIFICATION PROCESS

After successfully completing the DPT 100 or the DPT 200 course, with a pass of 80% or greater, the student will receive and retain a copy of their transcripts.

The individual resumes or begins work with a utility or locate service provider. After the required practical locating experience requirements have been met (DPT 100–minimum 6 months, DPT 200–minimum 36 months) the certification process can be initiated.

The applicant, in conjunction with their immediate supervisor, is observed carrying out locate activities in each of the categories that they seek certification in. The assessor completes the competency assessment, observing the actions and asking questions to probe the applicant’s knowledge and submits the assessment to the manager/owner for their review and approval.

The company manager/owner completes the employer statement and certifies that the applicant has demonstrated competence in any or all of the categories assessed and approves the submission to initiate the Damage Prevention Technician, DPT® certification process. Applicants can apply for multiple or single utility certification provided they have the minimum experience in the categories in which they seek certification. (DPT 100 – minimum 6months, DPT 200- minimum 36 months).

The competency assessment, a copy of the applicant’s transcript, and a letter from their employer, on company letter head, verifying the applicant’s work experience must be submitted to the ORCGA for certification.