



TOWN OF MONTEREY

Building Department
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TRENCH SAFETY REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2009

Excavators & Homeowners:

Trench safety regulations will be implemented and enforced as of March 1, 2009. Passed into law, specifically M.G.L. 82A it is known as “Jackie’s Law”.

History: Jaclyn Moore was a 4 year old girl who died in 1999 when an open, unattended trench collapsed on her while playing in her neighbor’s yard in Bridgewater.

The law applies to excavators and sets forth actions excavators must take to protect the general public when creating a trench.

A trench is defined by any excavation greater than 3 feet in depth and less than 15 feet in width.

Excavators must submit a completed application together with the permit fee to the issuing authority prior to commencing work. All applications must be submitted directly to the Monterey Town Hall, P.O. Box 308, Monterey, MA 01245 with the title, “Trenching Permit.”

The Selectboard has appointed the issuing authority for all trenching conducted on public ways and public property to be the Monterey Department of Public Works. The issuing authority for all trenching conducted on private property will be the Monterey Building Department.

Director of Operations - Maynard Forbes, 528-1734
Building Department- Don Torrico, 528-1443 x 118

A nominal fee of \$ 35.00 per permit has been approved to cover the cost of administrative services.

Rules and regulations as well as a section on frequently asked questions can be located on the Department of Public Safety website at www.mass.gov/dps. A link to this website has been provided on the town’s building department website located at www.montereyma.gov.

D.R.Torrico
Building Commissioner