

OUDDPC Training Discussion Group

Conference Call #3: 4/4/19

10:00am

Call Participants: Al Tonetti, Kevin Schimming, Regan Noble, Roger Lipscomb, Alice Miller, Jeff Kursman

Al began the third meeting of the Training Discussion Group with a review of the previous conference calls and discussions. Three questions were posed:

1. Who needs to be trained?
2. What should be the focus of that training?
3. Who can provide that training?

The intent of the Training Discussion Group, as this point and time, is to discuss these questions and to solicit insight and commentary from the broader OUDDPC.

Roger provided historical context of the original discussions regarding the inclusion of training requirements in Ohio Revised Code and how the current ORC language was established.

The group discussed two categories of training: Process and Obligations Under Ohio Revised Code vs. Industry Specific Training.

It was discussed that mandated training should include accountability for minimum knowledge of the One-Call process, the notification process and obligations under the law. It should be generic and consistent in its delivery to all parties: excavators, large and small contractors, locators, utilities and others involved in excavation and safe digging in Ohio.

As PUCO and the UTC increasingly direct companies/individuals for training regarding the one-call process, the notification process and obligations of parties under Ohio Revised Code, what is the standard training criteria and content and who is going to verify that any organizations delivering that training are presenting the same course materials in the same way? Varying emphasis and focus may significantly alter interpretations and/or meanings.

OHIO811 is currently investigating the 4iQ online learning management solution and certification program utilized by Dig Safely New York for possible referral and consideration by the OHIO811 Board. Dig Safely New York's online certification program in safe digging best practices is an interactive course. This certification combines various learning styles, including audio, visual, and hands-on exercises that allow participants to apply their knowledge into situations and obstacles that could be encountered in the field. Launched as a voluntary program, New York now has 35,000 certified excavators.

A completely separate category of training would include industry specific training and operator qualification. Modules could be developed for specific industry requirements. Challenges: Each industry segment has unique specific training requirements, individual companies develop their own materials which can vary significantly and methods and technologies are constantly changing.

Kevin Schimming suggested topics be presented at the OUDDPC and let the members share their opinions that can be formed into some language for the future. Kevin asked if anyone had an opinion regarding frequency of training. Roger stated that there has to be some timeline. That question will be posed to the OUDDPC members for their input.