

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

SAFE DRILLING PRACTICES SAVE TIME, MONEY AND LIVES

Project sites that have been used for multiple purposes over the years may have underground utilities that are not documented or easily identified. Selecting a drilling partner committed to best safety practices can result in discovering those utilities before an incident occurs, saving money, time, equipment and, in some cases, human life.

PROJECT: Former chemical manufacturing plant

TECHNOLOGY: Air-vac, sonic

SERVICE: Drilling, air knifing



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Cascade was selected to install monitoring wells using sonic drilling technology on a 350-acre former chemical manufacturing site. Due to the decades of use in various capacities, the project site was known to have many underground utility lines, but the location of all of them had not been confirmed. The client had already taken several steps to identify underground utilities, first by contacting the local agency for utility marking, then by hiring a vendor to identify and mark metal utility lines. The city then sent a representative with site maps to confirm there were no unmarked utility lines present.

RESULTS

Despite multiple indications that the drilling site should be clear, the Cascade crew followed company safety protocols and used an air-vac truck to safely clear the first few feet. It was fortunate that they did, as a 52-inch steel main water line with 285 psi of pressure was discovered at a depth of slightly more than 5.5 ft. Hitting a water line of that size and under that pressure would have resulted in a serious incident, including potential loss of life and loss of equipment.

Thanks to the knowledge and safe practices of the drilling crew, loss of life and equipment was averted. After discovery of the water line, the crew moved drilling to another location, successfully cleared the first few feet, and were able to proceed with the installation of monitoring wells.



EXCELLENCE ON EVERY LEVEL™

425-527-9700 | www.cascade-env.com

Nationwide Office Locations | Headquartered in Washington