

**Policy for the Excavation of Public Land
Survey System Corner Evidence**

The current policy in regards to the excavation of PLSS corner evidence that may be buried within the right-of-way of roads which Pine County has jurisdiction are as follows:

If you are requesting that Pine County provides excavation services then the following conditions apply:

Excavation requests will only be granted to MN licensed surveyors.

If the excavation is related to a survey contracted by or for an agency or concern that conducts their own PLSS corner remonumentation program then the request for excavation may be granted but Pine County's expense in equipment, labor and materials may be charged to the agency or concern.

A written request provided on "Pine County Request for PLSS Corner Excavation Form" must be received by the Pine County Surveyor within a minimum of 20-business days advanced notice prior to the requested date of excavation.

Excavation will occur between May 15 through November 1 of any given year.

The request for excavation must be in conjunction with a current land survey being performed by the requesting party.

If your request for excavation is granted you will be notified in writing of the schedule for excavation.

Pine County will provide the backhoe, backhoe operator and backfill material.

Pine County will provide excavation services for PLSS corners only. Interior section corners, plat corners, judicial monuments etc. do not qualify for this service.

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A MN licensed surveyor (or a person under the direct supervision of the former) must be at the excavation site while excavation and backfilling occurs.

Minimize the search and excavation area's size by surveying control scenarios prior to excavation. Pine County does not desire to excavate areas any larger than necessary.

If PLSS corner evidence is found and accepted then be prepared to set a monument. Monumentation must comply with MN State Statutes 160.15.

If no original PLSS corner evidence is found then be prepared to set a monument by methods for obliterated or lost corners. The determination of lost corner location must comply with the "Manual of Surveying Instructions 1973" USDI BLM.

The requesting party is responsible for contacting Gopher State One Call (800-252-1166) to verify if underground utilities are near the excavation area. Pine County must be provided written verification from Gopher State One Call prior to excavation stating that no underground utilities exist. If underground utilities do exist then a Gopher State One Call agent or contractor must mark those utilities. Utility marking must be visible on the date of excavation or excavation will not occur. The requesting party must comply with MN State Statutes 216D.04, Subd. 1 through Subd. 3 as they apply to the excavation of PLSS corners.

The requesting party is responsible for notifying any applicable municipal and/or town boards with ample time that said notification can be placed on their agenda and reviewed prior to the date of excavation.

This service will be managed on a first come first served basis, subject to availability of equipment and labor. Pine County reserves the ability to schedule any requested excavation when/if it desires.

Pine County reserves the right to deny requests for the excavation of PLSS corners for conditions stated here but not limited to those stated here.

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If you or your subcontractors are excavating and you are requesting reimbursement from Pine County for excavation services then the following conditions apply:

Reimbursement requests will only be granted to MN licensed surveyors.

If the excavation is related to a survey contracted by or for an agency or concern that conducts their own PLSS corner remonumentation program then the request for reimbursement for excavation services may be granted but Pine County's reimbursement expense may be charged to the agency or concern.

A minimum of 20-business days prior to the date of excavation the Pine County Surveyor must receive "Pine County Application for Work Permit on County Highway Right of Way Form." Said form must be approved by Pine County prior to the excavation date in order for excavation to be permitted. The requesting agent must adhere to all conditions stated on said form.

The Pine County Surveyor must receive "Pine County PLSS Corner Reimbursement for Corner Excavation Form" in order to qualify for reimbursement of excavation services.

The request for reimbursement for corner excavation must be in conjunction with a current land survey being performed by the requesting party.

Pine County will reimburse \$125.00 for each PLSS corner excavation that qualifies and that took place within the right-of-way of roads which Pine County has jurisdiction.

Pine County will provide reimbursement for excavation services for PLSS corners only. Interior section corners, plat corners, judicial monuments etc. do not qualify for this service.

Include with the reimbursement application a copy of the invoice from the provider of excavation services.

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A MN licensed surveyor (or a person under the direct supervision of the former) must be at the excavation site while excavation and backfilling occurs.

Minimize the search and excavation area's size by surveying control scenarios prior to excavation. Pine County does not desire to have areas any larger than necessary to be excavated.

If PLSS corner evidence is found and accepted then be prepared to set a monument. Monumentation must comply with MN State Statutes 160.15.

If no original PLSS corner evidence is found then be prepared to set a monument by methods for obliterated or lost corners. The determination of lost corner location must comply with the "Manual of Surveying Instructions 1973" USDI BLM.

The requesting party is responsible for contacting Gopher State One Call (800-252-1166) to verify if underground utilities are near the excavation area. The requesting party is solely responsible for any and all present and future damage that may occur(ed) to any and all above and/or below ground utilities due to the requesting party's excavation. The requesting party must comply with MN State Statutes 216D.04, Subd. 1 through Subd. 3 as they apply to the excavation of PLSS corners.

The requesting party is responsible for notifying any applicable municipal and/or town boards with ample time that said notification can be placed on their agenda and reviewed prior to the date of excavation.

This reimbursement program will be managed on a first come first served basis, subject to available funding. Pine County reserves the right to inspect that proper backfilling has taken place and to require that the requesting party properly backfill to the satisfaction of Pine County.

Pine County reserves the right to deny requests for the reimbursement for the excavation of PLSS corners and for the work permit on county highway right of way for conditions stated here but not limited to those stated here.