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| **C:\Users\Julia\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\9VGIJR9D\CityofDetroit_DWSD_4C (002).pngImplementing the Gold Shovel Standard** **In the City of Detroit** **Tues, July 17 and Wed July 18, 2018** **Workshop Q&A** |
| **Key Resources:**www.goldshovelstandard.orgwww.missdig.org |
| **Question: What items constituent GSS? How do we advertise, partner and/or become Gold Shovel Standard certified? (i.e., rules, forms, etc.)** Answer: Certification requirements are detailed in the enrollment instructions found on the Gold Shovel Standard website, which are downloaded during the online registration at www.goldshovelstandard.org. Click on “register” in the upper right hand corner and follow the prompts. |
| **Question: How can a utility verify if a contractor is certified? Is there a list? Can utility access app to verify contractor called in a ticket?** Answer: All certified contractors are listed (and updated real-time) at the GSS website under the membership dropdown. A utility does not have access via app to verify a contractor called in a ticket, however, the contractor is required to have a current, valid, one-call ticket accessible on site, available upon demand. |
| **Question: What is the cost by firm size?** Answer: Annual fees are determined by total number of employees: 1-9 ($900); 10-19 ($1500); 20-49 ($1800); 50+ ($2400). |
| **Question: Why isn’t the membership cost aligned to the number of excavators in the company?**Answer: The simplest measurement to determine and validate is total size of company.  |
| **Question:** **What kind of grant support is there for small firms?** Answer: Information pertaining to grant support can be found on the MISS DIG 811 website at www.missdig.org/events/active-committees/gssc-committee.html. On the website search for the Great Lakes Foundation or send an email to glf@missdig811.org to obtain more detailed information. There is an application and the small firms can provide a request for assistance to cover the Gold Shovel Standard monthly cost until it can be built into your cost structure or the cost/benefit evens out the expense. |
| **Question:** **What do the Gold Shovel Standard annual fees support and what are the benefits from these fees?** Answer: 1. Third party audit and help in perfecting or creating a damage prevention focused -safety management system.
2. Technology – software platform to track, manage and analyze damage information and satisfy your customer’s request for this; metrics information in which to enable continuous improvement and benchmark with industry averages; use of app from technology company that a provides ticket management system and site condition documentation capability.
3. Other benefits – provides for fair competition, reputation, expert consulting, cost savings, and easy adoption –have visibility into and perfect operations without extraordinary resource expenditure.
4. MISS DIG 811 Associate Membership once Gold Shovel Standard certified.
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| **Question: If we join Gold Shovel Standard, do we get any benefits through MISS DIGG 811?** Answer: MISS DIG 811 Associate Membership once GSS certified. |
| **Question: What is membership like for a facility owner? Do they have to pay annual fees?** Answer: Many facility owners have employees that do excavation work, so they get certified -- corporations pay $2400/yr and municipalities pay $1500/yr. MI has an arrangement as noted above so municipalities who only contract out work do not incur a fee. Otherwise, if there is financial hardship for a municipality, a letter can be submitted to the Gold Shovel Association board of directors to consider waiving fees.If you are a MISS DIG 811 Facility Owner Operator member, and joining GSS as a Facility Owner only-not as an excavator, then there is no additional fee to GSS, your MISSS DIG 811 membership fee covers your GSS fee.  |
| **Question: Are subcontractors covered under the “general”, if the “general” has a GSS membership?**  |
| Answer: No. |
| **Question: Will locating contractors be involved in GSS? If so, when?** Answer: Yes. This is already underway. |
| **Question: Who exactly has to join GSS to get Detroit work?** Answer: Anyone involved in excavation work as defined per MI Public Act 174 upon approval of city ordinance. |
| **Question: Will a geotechnical engineering firm require this certification in the City of Detroit – sewer walks, drilling, design?** Answer: Yes, if the firm is excavating per PA 174. |
| **Questions: How does a company develop its own training and get its GSS certification approved?** Answers: Training curriculum requirements are in the enrollment instructions, which detail exactly what is needed for certification. The training materials that are developed and intended to be used are uploaded (along with the other required documents) to the online account created when registering. Consulting and feedback from GSS staff is provided. |
| **Question: Is on-line training available? If so, how does it work?** Answer: Yes, on-line training is available through MISS DIGG 811. Contact Linda Portelli at lportelli@missdig811.org and review the Education Team webpage at www.missdig.org/education/miss-dig-certification-program.html. |
| **Question: Are there trainers available to get small companies Gold Shovel certified?** Answer: Yes. Contact the MISS DIG 811 Linda Portelli at lportelli@missdig811.org and review the Education Team webpage at www.missdig.org/education/miss-dig-certification-program.html. |
| **Question:** **What does a training record look like, and where do we have to maintain them?** Answer: Contact the MISS DIG 811 Linda Portelli at lportelli@missdig811.org and review the Education Team webpage at www.missdig.org/education/miss-dig-certification-program.html. |
| **Question: Will GSS come to my site to train my people?** Answer: Yes. Contact the MISS DIG 811 Linda Portelli at lportelli@missdig811.org and review the Education Team webpage at www.missdig.org/education/miss-dig-certification-program.html. |
| **Question: What type of training does the utility locators go through? (e.g., URG)** Answer: Utility locator certification requirements are currently being developed. |
| **Question: What kind of data is available from the GSS reports and what do reports look like?** Answer: The reports are a committee- approved presentation of damages, itemized with specific attributes, and normalized by man-hours and notifications. Please contact GSS for further, more detailed explanation and examples.  |
| **Question: Will my company’s GSS data be secure and will there be a firewall to protect our data?** Answer: Yes. GSS understands the importance of data security and has had 3rd party testing done to identify any vulnerabilities. The results showed no external vulnerabilities and no critical, high, or medium level vulnerabilities internally. The report is available at our website.  |
| **Question: What is the status of GSS implementation across the state? What other municipalities have signed up?** Answer: 20+ Municipalities have contacted MISS DIG 811 regarding the GSS certification. They are in various states of review and implementation. |
| **Question: What is the Collaborate Detroit Pilot?** Answer: This is a Pilot for Design and Planning Collaboration between the Major Utilities in Detroit, MDOT, the City of Detroit and MISS DIG 811. The process also includes Engineering and Contractors, and is being studied for expansion of the MISS DIG 811 Design Ticket Process. |
| **Question: Will GSS be working with OSHA standards and national electric code standards developing standards?** Answer: Gold Shovel Standard is not creating new standards independent of existing laws, codes and standards, rather, ensures that companies reference existing, applicable laws and cover other key operational concepts in training for all affected workers that if known and followed, will significantly reduce the likelihood of infrastructure damages. The Gold Shovel Standard certification indicates that a baseline, common, damage prevention safety management system has been verified and is in place. |
| **Question: Contractor vs. non-contractor certified – is the information requested from Miss Digg different?** Answer: There is only a difference between Facility Owner Operator only and Excavator see website above. |