



2025 Industry Awards

Descriptions & Criteria

The UDig NY Guardian Excavation Company Award

The UDig NY Guardian Award acknowledges excavation companies that have successfully integrated damage prevention within their organizational culture. This prestigious award honors exemplary performance in maintaining a zero-damage policy, prioritizing worker safety, and protecting underground infrastructure. It highlights the recipient company's dedication to fostering a safe working environment while emphasizing damage prevention at every operational level. The award will be presented to a company that has exhibited a thorough and consistent safety program, originating from the highest administrative levels and permeating through the entire corporate culture down to field operations.

Award Criteria

Nominees for the UDig NY Guardian Award will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Comprehensive Safety Program: Demonstrates a well-structured safety program from administrative levels to field operations.
- Zero-Damage Policy: Consistently implements and enforces a zero-damage policy.
- Incident Rates: Maintains low incident rates and high safety standards.
- Participation and Support: Actively supports regional Damage Prevention Councils (DPC).
- Adoption of Best Practices: Utilizes effective damage prevention practices and innovative safety measures.
- Education: Adoption of the Certified Excavator Program into all field personnel Metrics: Evaluates ticket numbers, damage rates, CEP numbers, Exactix adoption, and ticket quality.

Nomination Process

Nominations for the UDig NY Guardian Award should focus on:

- Prioritizing excavation safety in daily operations.
- Advocating for evidence-based safety practices and successfully influencing changes in legislation or behavior.
- Planning future safety advocacy and sharing best practices with others.
- Proactively implementing safety measures and providing detailed responses to the award application questionnaire.

Contractors will be evaluated and designated as Platinum, Gold, or Silver based on their incident rates and the effectiveness of their safety programs. This award recognizes members and contractors who excel in excavation safety, reflecting their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of safety and integrity in their work.

The Precision Pathfinder Locator Award

The Precision Pathfinder Award recognizes an outstanding utility locator who has demonstrated exceptional skill, dedication, and accuracy in their field. This prestigious award celebrates those who have gone above and beyond to ensure the safety and integrity of public infrastructure through precise and effective locating services.

Award Criteria

Nominees for the Precision Pathfinder Award will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Accuracy and Precision:** Consistently demonstrates a high level of accuracy in locating underground utilities, minimizing the risk of damage and ensuring the safety of excavation projects.
- **Innovation and Improvement:** Shows a commitment to continuous improvement and innovation in locating techniques, tools, and technologies.
- **Safety Record:** Maintains an exemplary safety record, with minimal to no marks.
- **Professionalism and Conduct:** Exhibits professionalism, reliability, and a strong work ethic in all aspects of their job.
- **Training and Mentorship:** Actively participates in training and mentorship programs, contributing to the development and education of fellow locators.
- **Customer Service:** Provides exceptional customer service, building strong relationships with clients and stakeholders through clear communication and dependable service.
- **Advocacy for Best Practices:** Advocates for best practices in the industry, promoting the importance of accurate locating services and contributing to the advancement of the profession.

Nomination Process

Nominations for the Precision Pathfinder Award should include:

- A detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications, highlighting their adherence to the award criteria
- Supporting evidence, such as testimonials from clients, colleagues, or supervisors, performance metrics, and records of training or certifications.
- Examples of specific projects or incidents where the nominee's locating skills and professionalism had a significant positive impact.
- A plan for future advocacy and continued excellence in the field of utility locating.

The Precision Pathfinder Award aims to honor those who exemplify excellence in utility locating, ensuring that their contributions to public safety and infrastructure protection are recognized and celebrated.



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Damage Prevention Council Member of the Year Award

The Damage Prevention Council Member of the Year Award is presented to a distinguished member of the Damage Prevention Council (DPC) who has consistently demonstrated excellence and dedication in the field of damage prevention. This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have made significant and sustained contributions to their regional Damage Prevention Council, thereby serving as role models for other members and significantly enhancing the council's growth and prestige.

Award Criteria

Significant contributions to damage prevention.

- Serves as a role model for other members.
- Made sustained contributions to the regional Damage Prevention Council.
- Enhanced the prestige and growth of the council.

Nomination Process

Nominations for the Damage Prevention Council Member of the Year Award should include:

- A detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications, highlighting their adherence to the award criteria.
- Supporting evidence, such as testimonials from clients, colleagues, or supervisors, performance metrics, and records of training or certifications.
- Examples of specific projects or incidents where the nominee's work in damage prevention had a significant positive impact.
- A plan for future advocacy and continued excellence in the field of damage prevention.

This award aims to honor those who exemplify excellence in damage prevention, ensuring that their contributions to public safety and infrastructure protection are recognized and celebrated.



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Rising Star DPC Member Award

The Rising Star Award is designed to recognize a qualified Damage Prevention Council (DPC) member who has demonstrated exceptional promise and performance in the early stages of their career. This award spotlights up-and-coming leaders who actively attend and support UDig NY at DPC meetings, conferences, and education programs. Any employee who has participated in a regional DPC for three or fewer years is eligible for this honor.

Award Criteria

Nominees should:

- Be recognized within their DPC as future leaders.
- Demonstrate dedication to the goals and principles of damage prevention and safe excavation.
- Exhibit problem-solving skills, creativity, job knowledge, and leadership.
- Achieve significant results or foster growth and participation in the regional council.
- Show interest in improving management and operational skills through continuing education.

Nomination Process

Nominations for the Rising Star Award should include:

- A detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications, highlighting their adherence to the award criteria
- Supporting evidence, such as testimonials from clients, colleagues, or supervisors, performance metrics, and records of training or certifications.
- Examples of specific projects or incidents where the nominee's work in damage prevention had a significant positive impact.
- A plan for future advocacy and continued excellence in the field of damage prevention.