

These general notes and precautions are guidance for contractors or other third party organisations and apply when working adjacent to Portsmouth Waters distribution assets.

They don't replace or change any rights held by the Company by virtue of the Water Industry Act 1991 or any deed of grant of easement for the length concerned.

If requested Portsmouth Water will provide approximate locations of water mains according to our records. Our records do not usually show positions of water service pipes from the water main to properties. They may not be accurate or complete and no company or person will be given dispensation from liability for damaging our apparatus for the reason of the actual positions or depths being different from those indicated on plans. Portsmouth Water staff or contractors will visit any site, given reasonable notice to help in the location of our apparatus, and can offer advice on precautions that we may require to avoid any damage.

To satisfy safe working conditions adjacent to any of our apparatus you should comply with the following guidance:

All our water apparatus must be located by hand digging before the use of any mechanical plant to excavate.

- As construction work progresses where heavy plant may have to cross the line of a water main, and that water main is not under an adequate standard of carriageway, crossing points should be sufficiently reinforced with sleepers or some other suitable material as necessary. All crossing points must be clearly indicated and other places where crossings could be made should be prevented. This is more apparent where our water mains cross rural areas.
- If you propose to use piling within 20m of any water pipe, Portsmouth Water must be consulted so that we can survey the area.
- Where any excavations adjacent to any water pipe affects the support, that pipe must be adequately supported to our satisfaction.
- Any backfilled trenches parallel to or crossing a pipe must be compacted sufficiently to prevent any subsidence which could cause damage to the main. In some instances permanent support may be required to support a pipe exposed over an excessive length prior to backfilling. We do not allow concrete backfill to come into contact with any pipe.
- A minimum clearance of 300mm must be provided between any plant being installed to allow repair and maintenance, whether the plant be parallel or crossing the water pipe. No manholes or chambers will be built over or round our apparatus or pipes.
- Where Portsmouth Waters apparatus is damaged, even any special wrapping you must notify us so we are able to make the damage good, no matter how minor that damage is. All damage repairs will be charged to the person or company responsible. Leave the trench open so we are able to repair our apparatus speedily.
- If leakage is found or caused you must inform Portsmouth Water immediately, leave the trench open so we may repair the damaged apparatus.
- Where your proposed work will involve altering existing levels over our water mains you must inform us. We will require specific locations and details of the changes to ground levels. This may require a diversion of our apparatus for which there will be a charge. In some circumstances we may require that our apparatus remains where it is. Any surface boxes must be either lowered or raised accordingly. We may give you permission to compete this work. Under no circumstances are our boxes to be left buried or raised above the finished ground level. If any damage occurs as a result of your work, the repairs will be fully rechargeable back to you.

Tree planting near our Water Mains.

- Cherry, willow and poplar trees have extensive tree root systems and must not be planted within 10m of any water main.
- Other various species of trees such as evergreen, ash, beech, birch, elm, horse chestnut, lime, oak, sycamore may be allowed to be planted slightly nearer, however they must not be planted within 5m of our apparatus. More general advice can be obtained from contacting us.
- We must have a clear path maintained for inspection, repairs and maintenance, therefore we do not recommend the planting of shrubs and bushes within one meter of the pipeline.
- In instances where plants are to be used for screening purposes you should contact our office for advice. Consideration will be given to shallow rooting species such as elder, hazel, privet etc. Soft fruit such as black currant, raspberries and gooseberries will also be considered.

Contact Us;

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e-mail us at: asset.enquiries@portsmouthwater.co.uk
call us on; (023) 9249 9888 or, (023) 9244 9082

Our normal hours of business Monday to Friday 8:30am – 4:30

In an emergency contact our 24 hour Emergency Operations Centre on 023 9247 7999.