



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
P.O. Box 9025, Olympia, WA 98507-9025

March 3, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

Citizens of Washington State have invested in the marking of property boundaries and survey monuments since before Statehood. Survey monuments and markers are not only important to delineate public and private ownership; they are critical. However, property markers (corners) and survey monuments are often endangered, and in many cases destroyed, by road and utility construction and maintenance projects. These projects are designed and overseen by responsible professionals who are licensed under the authority of chapter 18.43 RCW.

It is the obligation of those professionals who are stamping and sealing the design documents for these projects to ensure that the process to protect survey monuments and markers located within their project limits is clearly noted and/or described. The law contained in chapter 58.24 RCW and chapter 332-120 WAC provide the requirements and processes to protect these monuments.

Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and employees of government agencies responsible for this work, must take the lead in encouraging others involved in their projects to follow the approved design plans and abide by the laws and rules to protect these monuments. Willfully allowing the disturbance and/or destruction of survey monuments without obtaining the necessary permits is considered a violation of law and may result in the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors taking disciplinary action.

Anyone performing construction or maintenance activities should consider the following:

- No survey monument shall be removed or destroyed before a permit is obtained from the Department of Natural Resources. WAC 332-120-030
- When one or more monuments must be removed during an activity which might disturb or destroy it, a licensed Professional Engineer or Land Surveyor must complete, sign, seal and then file a permit with the Department of Natural Resources. WAC 332-120-030

Each government agency should hold those individuals and companies accountable to obtain all the necessary permits for construction which includes the adoption of a monument protection plan, and which follows the monument removal permit process provided in chapter 332-120 WAC. In most cases, an agency official must be in responsible charge of protecting monuments during the maintenance and construction activities within their jurisdiction.

On behalf of the Citizens of Washington we are asking you to take appropriate action to actively protect the survey monuments in your charge.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board's office at 360-664-1575 or engineers@brpels.wa.gov. For permit-related questions, please contact the Department of Natural Resources at 360-902-1230.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marjorie Lund". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Marjorie" written in a larger, more prominent hand than the last name "Lund".

Marjorie Lund, PE, SE
Board Chair