

# BURIAL DEPTHS FOR YARD PIPING AND ELECTRICAL LINES

## NOTES

These burial depths apply outside of buildings within private property subject to the following provisions:

1. Not applicable to utility companies gas and electric lines.
2. May be laid in the same trench without horizontal separation except as noted for sewer and water lines.
3. Does not apply to automatic sprinkler system lines beyond control valves.

## SYMBOLS:

- Conduit
- Pipe
- Alternate Location
- Direct Burial Cable

Code	Category	Material	Location	Notes
CEC 2007	ELECTRIC	RIGID METAL CONDUIT	Grade	
		RIGID NONMETALLIC CONDUIT	Grade	
		DIRECT BURIAL	Grade	
CPC 2007 Sec. 1211.0	GAS	METAL (UNCOATED)	6"	(a) 6" above ground (uncoated and unwrapped). (b) 12" below ground (factory coated or machine wrapped).
		METAL (COATED)	12"	
		NON-METALLIC	18"	
CPC 2007 Sec. 720	SEWER	NON-METALLIC (APPROVED INSIDE BLDG.)	Grade	No burial requirement (recommended 12" to protect from mechanical damage and freezing).
		NON-METALLIC (NOT APPROVED INSIDE BLDG.)	Grade	
		METAL	Grade	
CPC 2007 Sec. 720	WATER	METAL (ABOVE GROUND)	6"	(a) Pipe approved inside building - 12" minimum. (b) Pipe approved inside building - sewer to be 12" below water line with water pipe 12" to one side on a solid shelf - total depth 24", and 12" apart horizontally minimum.
		NON-METALLIC	Grade	
		METAL (BELOW GRADE)	Grade	

**Metal** - Rigid conduit (coated) 6" minimum.  
**Nonmetallic** - Rigid conduit 18" minimum.  
**Exception** - Direct burial cable 24" minimum. (NEC Art. 300-5 Exceptions apply: 1e., 6" less depth for 2" concrete pad over cable. Residential branch circuits rated 120 Volts or less with GFCI protection and maximum overcurrent protection of 20 amperes may be at 12".

**Metal** - (a) 6" above ground (uncoated and unwrapped).  
 (b) 12" below ground (factory coated or machine wrapped).  
**Nonmetallic** - (PVC or PE) - 18" min.  
**NOTE:** Require approved plastic to metal transition fittings to rise above ground. Also, 18 GA. copper tracer wire required for non-metallic pipe.

**Metal** - No burial requirement (recommended 12" to protect from mechanical damage and freezing).  
**Nonmetallic** - (a) Pipe approved inside building - 12" minimum.  
 (b) Pipe approved inside building - sewer to be 12" below water line with water pipe 12" to one side on a solid shelf - total depth 24", and 12" apart horizontally minimum.

**Metal** - At or above grade, or 12" minimum below grade.  
**Nonmetallic** - 12" minimum (plastic).



## BURIAL DEPTHS

HELP FOR THE HOMEOWNER  
 CITY OF RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA