



BENTON RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

Benton REA Trenching/Digging and Facilities Installation Requirements

Trenching (conduits):

Member shall be responsible for all trenching. This includes up to (within 1 foot) any existing facilities (pole, vault, handhole, etc).

Trenching minimum width requirements are:

- 1) 18" When only BREA is present, or sharing trench with Phone or Cable.
- 2) 60" When gas, sewer, and/or water utilities will also be present.

Trenching minimum depth requirements are voltage-based:

- 1) > 600V: Required trench depth is 48" minimum. (*primary voltage*)
- 2) < 600V: Required trench depth is 42" minimum. (*secondary/service voltage*)

Digging (vaults):

For all new vault installations, member shall be responsible for digging out the appropriately sized hole to accommodate the installation. This hole shall be a minimum 1-foot larger in all horizontal directions than the vault being installed. A table of typical vault and respective dig-out requirement sizes is as follows:

<u>Vault</u>	<u>Hole (W x L x D)</u>	<u>Example/Typical Use</u>
36"x24"	48" x 48" x 36"	1Ø Secondary Handhole
42"x36"	54" x 54" x 42"	1Ø Pad-Mounted Transformer Vault
60"x60"	72" x 72" x 48"	3Ø Pad-Mounted Transformer Vault
84"x84"	96" x 96" x 60"	3Ø Pad-Mounted Switchgear Vault

Conduit Installation:

Benton REA shall provide and install all conduits that serve to provide electric power to the member, **with the following exceptions:**

- 1) The riser conduit(s) from the meterbase (or CT cabinet) down into the trench, as well as the long sweep(s) at said riser(s).
- 2) **For Not All-Electric (NAE) residences:** All conduit(s) and sweeps from the transformer to the meterbase (or CT cabinet). Conduit shall be inspected by a qualified Benton REA representative, **prior to backfill.**

Vault Installation:

Benton REA shall provide and install all concrete/non-concrete vaults, on the source side of the meter, that serve to provide electric power to the member.