

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### New underground duct structure and manholes (phase 2) – Springbrook Drive (Moss Hill Trail to Trailway Circle) and Granite Ridge Drive (Cinnabar Way to Fringewood Drive)

**Q. Why is Hydro Ottawa undertaking an underground duct structure and manhole project in my area?**

**A.** As most electrical assets have a lifespan of 50 years or less, a considerable proportion of the electrical distribution system is approaching its anticipated end-of-life. In order to stay ahead of this aging curve, Hydro Ottawa has plans to replace and upgrade the aging infrastructure servicing this community.

**Q. What is an underground duct structure?**

**A.** An underground duct structure houses and protects underground cables and minimizes the requirement for excavation for future cable replacements. It contains the plastic 100mm ducts encased in concrete which allows for easy install and replacement when required as well as protection for the cables.

**Q. What is a manhole?**

**A.** A manhole is an underground chamber and allows an access point to conduct underground service maintenance. The manhole is 6'x12' in size and 7' deep – it will have a 32" frame and cover that will be located in the sidewalk or pavement.

**Q. When will the project start?**

**A.** Work on this project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2017. The Granite Ridge Project is scheduled for July and August – after the Stittsville Public School is closed for the summer break.

**Q. Where are the underground duct structures and manholes located?**

**A.** Hydro Ottawa's equipment is located within our easements or the City of Ottawa's Road Right-of-Way allowance. The new underground duct structures will be located at the city of Ottawa's Road Right-of-way allowance. Some laneways may be cut but reinstated as will the lawns (sodded) upon completion.

**Q. What is an easement?**

**A.** Your property may contain a Hydro Ottawa easement. This easement is a legal right of access for Hydro Ottawa to a portion of your property for the purpose of installing and maintaining its distribution system. It is vital that easements be kept clear; to permit access to the equipment that supplies you and your neighbours with electricity.

**Q. What is the City's Road Right-of-Way allowance?**

**A.** "Right-of-Way" or "Road Right-of-Way" or "Road Allowance" means, generally, the band of land between private property lines that has been set aside by a government for public use and access for the purpose of travel, or utility use and access, for example, traffic signs, traffic signals, and utility services.

Hydro Ottawa Limited / Hydro Ottawa limitée

3025 Albion Road North, PO Box 8700 / chemin Albion Nord, C.P. 8700  
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3S4

[www.hydroottawa.com](http://www.hydroottawa.com)



**Q. How will I know if my property will be affected?**

**A.** A map which shows the location of Hydro Ottawa's underground duct structure and manholes is available for review. Each property is reviewed and the customer will be advised if their property is affected.

**Q. Will I be notified before work begins in my yard?**

**A.** Yes. If your property is impacted, Hydro Ottawa will notify you at least two weeks before work begins.

**Q. Will I have to move/remove my fence/shed?**

**A.** This project will involve work along the road edge and should not affect any fences or buildings.

**Q. What about the trees and my cedar hedge?**

**A.** Vegetation such as hedges and trees may have to be removed if they impede access.

**Q. Can I keep my vegetation?**

**A.** Yes. You may remove and/or transplant your vegetation. When planning this work it is important to maintain a safe distance between any overhead or underground electrical equipment. Before you dig, please call **Ontario One Call at 1-800-400-2255** and refer to Hydro Ottawa's 'Tree Planting Advice' brochure.

**Q. What will happen to the excavated area once your work is completed?**

**A.** The area will be brought back to finished grade with top soil and sod for all front lawns and grass seed applied in the areas where there are no homes present.

**Q. Will there be power interruptions while this work takes place?**

**A.** While power interruptions are not expected to occur as a result of this project, residents will receive advanced notification prior to any planned power interruption at their premises if outages are required.

**Q. How will the construction affect our neighbourhood?**

**A.** Residents of the neighborhood will notice increased construction presence throughout the project, including excavation activities and construction vehicles. Traffic control will be implemented when required to ensure that roads and driveways remain accessible and safe to residents.

**Q. How will Hydro Ottawa minimize the noise?**

**A.** We will ensure that the majority of the work is completed weekdays between **8 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

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