

# Rock Splitters Inc.



*Residential and Commercial*

*Swimming Pools - Foundations - Trench Lines*

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Charlton City, MA 01508*

*(508) 726-2661*

May 20, 2020

As per your request, we are happy to offer you the following information in reference to 5/18/20 planning board meeting for the Town of Melrose.

Prior to the commencement of any drilling, blasting or excavation Dig Safe will be notified granting us 72 hours so that they may locate any underground utilities

**Pre-blast survey:** Definition – A video archive of structures condition. The vendor surveyor examines the outside of the structure, exposed foundation, walls, walkways, windows, chimneys, swimming pool decks, then the commencement of interior condition all ceilings, all walls, all windows, all moldings, basement floors, bulkheads, any ceramic flooring, any and all artistic moldings, custom mantels, fireplace hearth and fire box. Once completed, this video is held in archive storage video bank kept by the survey company. This whole process takes anywhere from 1 hour to 1 ½ hours, only a portion of this is inside.

**Covid-19 protection** – The surveyor will be dressing in a tyvek suit, with a mask and gloves and foot (shoe) coverings. Prior to commencement of survey, surveyor will take his temperature. This uniform will be destroyed after each use and a new one (complete set up) will be used. This procedure will be our practice each time a survey is commenced.

**Monitoring equipment** – A Blast mate micro mate all calibrated yearly and placed by trained operators. According to law, we must place this or these units at least 10' from the Northern corner of any structure not in control of the site. This is activated by vibration and decibel levels. These are used each and every time prior to the initiation of every blast. All paperwork is submitted to the Melrose Fire Department for examination, to review blast study. Seismic levels are held at 2" per second, decibel

levels are at 133db which is no louder than a push lawn mower, as stated verbally, we are held to a very high bar.

**Blasting Procedures** - All controllable blasting is created by having relief, in brief, a flow or vibration and designed ledge trailing, a place for the blast to move to, which is paramount, it mitigates vibration and air blast. Each blast creates its own relief, and reduces vibration, shot size and charge weight is designed with exposure in mind. When close to structures, shot sizes are designed and calibrated to reduce vibration. When exposure is reduced, we can enlarge the round or shot size. All blast columns are topped off with 3/8<sup>th</sup> crushed stone to mitigate barrel frequency (air wave decibel) and covered with heavy rubber tire mats each mat weighing in at 5,500 lbs – 8,500 lbs. We have several that will be on site for placement for mobilization to blast site.

**Safety personnel** – A Fire Department representative will be on site. Trained by fire service of the State of Massachusetts. This person will be on site the moment the powder truck arrives. No column loading will commence until the Town of Melrose is on site. Signs will be placed at both ingress and egress locations. This is a blast site, no one unless authorized by the blasting company is allowed in and around our explosives truck or site, all of our company personnel are cleared by the ATF, DOT, Homeland Security and the State of Massachusetts.

**Post blast** – A condition survey will be available upon request which in itself is on video archive of existing conditions. After blast completion, all surveys are available to the property owner upon request; the vendor has a fee structure of \$225 each if requested. The initial Pre-blast survey and post are conducted at no cost to the homeowner by blast contractor.

**Insurance for Abutters** – Rock Splitters, Inc is fully covered for 12 month periods. Once a permit is issued by the Town/City, all damage is covered by our policy. Only Certificates of Insurance are issued to the Town of Melrose, and the builder. Be advised that the Fire Department has complaint forms that can be filled out by claimant in the event that they feel they have suffered damage (complaint must be filed within 30 days of the alleged incident), after the complaint form is filled out it is sent directly to our insurance company to be reviewed by an adjuster. All records are examined by the Fire Department for compliance.

In closing, I wish and hope that I have alleviated your fears, and questions.

Be well and stay safe!