Safety in Excavations or Trenches

Do NOT enter an unprotected excavation or trench!

OSHA regulations REQUIRE the following to be present at ALL excavations or trenches:

- Excavations or trenches 5 feet deep or greater require a protective system.

The walls of the excavation or trench MUST be one of the following:

- Sloped for stability.
- Cut to create stepped or benched grades.
- Supported by a system made with posts, beams, shores or planking and hydraulic jacks.
- Supported by a trench box to protect workers in an excavation or trench.
- Excavated materials must be at least 2 feet away from the excavation or trench.
- An exit ladder must be within 25 feet of workers.

For more information, contact your Loss Control Consultant at (800) 252-5059, ext. 1387 or 1384.
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