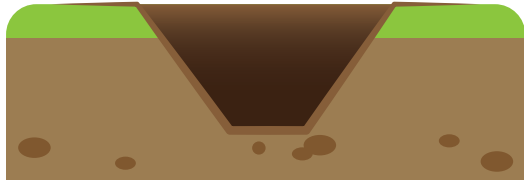


# PROTECT WORKERS IN TRENCHES



Trench related fatalities doubled from 2015 to 2016, totaling 23 deaths. Deaths and injuries can be prevented with proper trench and excavation procedures. Protect your workers from deadly cave-ins by putting the proper protective systems in place:

## TYPES OF APPROVED PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS



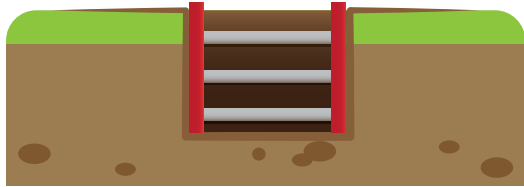
### SLOPED

For every foot of depth, the trench must be excavated back 1.5 feet (safe for any type of soil).



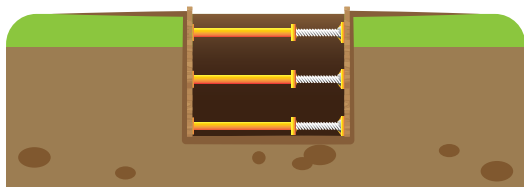
### BENCHED

Cut to create stepped benched grades (safe for type A or B soil only).



### SHIELDED

Using a trench box or shield approved by a registered professional engineer.

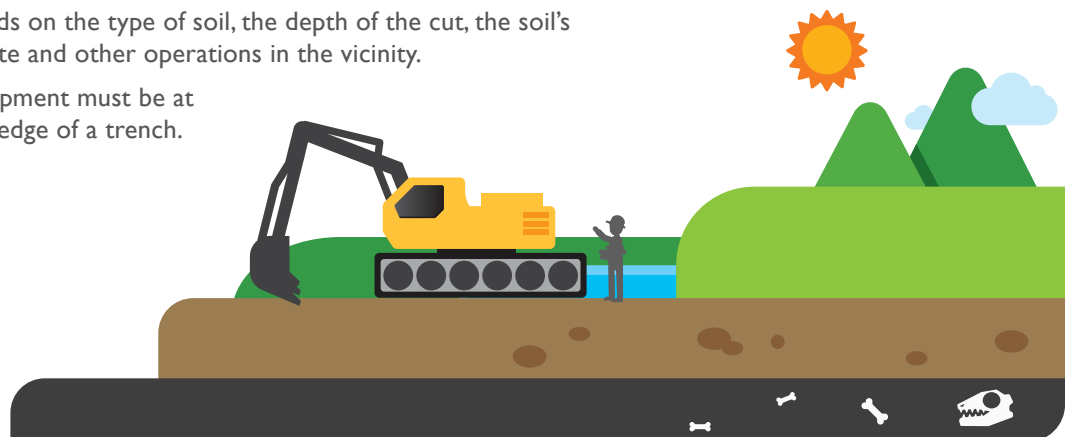


### OTHER SYSTEMS

Supporting trench sides with materials such as posts, beams, shores or planking and hydraulic jacks.

## KEEP IN MIND

- ▶ The protective system depends on the type of soil, the depth of the cut, the soil's water content, weather, climate and other operations in the vicinity.
- ▶ Excavated soil and other equipment must be at least two feet away from the edge of a trench.
- ▶ Provide a safe exit within 25 feet of all trench workers.



Source:

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)