



Join Us in Observing National Trench Safety Stand-Down Week

**PROTECT WORKERS
IN TRENCHES**

Prevent trench collapses and save lives:

- SLOPE** or bench trench walls,
- SHORE** trench walls with supports, or
- SHIELD** trench walls with trench boxes

 **OSHA**
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

MelSafetyInstitute.org

The National Trench Safety Stand-Down week is June 14-18, 2021. The Stand-Down aims to raise trench hazard awareness to stop fatalities and injuries that occur during trench cave-ins. It is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. Any workplace can hold a stand-down by taking a break to focus on the hazards associated with working in trenches and reinforcing the importance of preventative measures like sloping, shoring, and shielding.

Agencies with employees who work in trenches can conduct a Safety Stand-Down by providing Safety Briefings or other safety activities such as conducting safety equipment inspections, providing training, or discussing job-specific hazards. Managers are encouraged to plan a Stand-Down that works best for their workplace.

Visit OSHA's [Trenching and Excavation Safety page](#) and the [National Utility Contractor Association Stand Down page](#) for ideas on how you can foster a dialogue with employees. Videos, graphics, and this year's poster in English and

Spanish are available to support your efforts.

There are several MEL resources available including two MSI Now training programs titled "Trench Safety Basics for Field Personnel" and "Trenching and Shoring Safety in Construction Environments". Additional MEL resources consist of:

- [Trench Safety Poster](#)
- [Trench Safety Stand Down Poster](#)
- [Excavation Competent Person Documentation](#)
- [Excavating & Trenching Audit Checklist](#)
- [Excavation & Trenching Protective Support Systems](#)
- [Excavation Inspection Permit Checklist](#)
- [Excavation-Approximate Angle of Repose for Sloping the Sides of Excavations](#)
- [Excavations and Trenches Daily Inspection Checklist](#)
- [Excavation-Steps for Determining Soils Classification](#)

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