

**Two Workers  
Are Killed  
Every Month  
in Trench  
Collapses!**

**One Cubic Yard  
of Soil Can  
Weigh As Much  
As A Car.**



# AN UNPROTECTED TRENCH IS AN EARLY GRAVE

**Make sure that trenches are protected from cave-ins by:**

- Sloping or benching trench walls, or
- Shoring trench walls with supports, or
- Shielding trench walls with trench boxes.



*Photo courtesy of Speed Shore Corp.*

**Inspect trenches at the start of each shift and as needed, throughout the workday.**

**Provide safe entry and exit through the use of ladders, ramps or stairways.**

**Know where underground utilities are located before digging.**

**Keep all equipment, materials and spoil piles at least 2 feet back from trench edges.**



U.S. Department of Labor  
Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of Labor

**For assistance, contact us.  
We are OSHA. We can help.  
It's confidential.**

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