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	STANDARD: **OSHA 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Daily Pre-Shift**

Excavation And Trenching Safety Compliance Checklist

Operational Scope: Establishes mandatory inspection protocols for all open excavation and trenching operations to mitigate soil collapse, cave-in, and struck-by hazards. Ensures full regulatory compliance prior to personnel entry or heavy equipment deployment.

MANDATORY PPE:	Hard Hat (ANSI Z89.1), Steel-Toe Boots (ASTM F2413), High-Visibility Vest (ANSI/ISEA 107 Class 2), Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1), Fall Arrest Harness (when working near edges >6ft)
PREREQUISITES:	Review underground utility locate tickets (811 call) prior to breaking ground | Verify competent person is designated and on-site before inspection | Establish clear perimeter control and warning barricades around the zone

PRE-ENTRY & UTILITY VERIFICATION

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Underground Utility Clearance**	All underground utility locate markings are visible, verified, and hand-digging zones (tolerance zones) are clearly flagged.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
2	**Competent Person Inspection**	A designated competent person has physically inspected the excavation site prior to worker entry for the shift.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
3	**Atmospheric Testing**	For trenches deeper than 4 feet where hazardous atmospheres are suspected, oxygen, flammable gases, and toxic contaminants are tested and within safe limits.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

PROTECTION SYSTEMS & SPOIL PLACEMENT

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
4	**Cave-In Protection System**	Sloping, shoring, shielding (trench box), or benching is installed and maintained in accordance with soil classification (Type A, B, or C).	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
5	**Spoil Pile Placement**	Excavated soil (spoils), materials, and equipment are placed a minimum of 2 feet back from the edge of the excavation.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
6	**Water Accumulation Control**	Water removal equipment (pumps) is operational, and excavations are continuously monitored to prevent uncontrolled water accumulation.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

ACCESS, EGRESS & HAZARD MITIGATION

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
7	**Safe Means of Egress**	Ladders, stairways, or ramps are securely positioned, extending at least 3 feet above the surface, and located within 25 feet of lateral travel for workers.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
8	**Surface Encumbrances**	Trees, boulders, poles, and adjacent structures are supported or removed to prevent hazard from falling or rolling into the excavation.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
9	**Walkway and Bridge Barricades**	Standard guardrails are installed where employees or equipment must cross over excavations deeper than 6 feet.	**Standard**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

Certified Inspector / Lead Operator Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Site Safety Supervisor / Operations Manager Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

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