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12 important things you should know about Excavations

1. Soil must be classified as A, B or C.
2. Soils must be inspected visually and physically tested !
3. Cave-in controls are required for trenches deeper than 5 ft!
4. How are you going to climb out? Ladders?
5. Is the air ok?
6. Have the utilities been located?
7. Ramps and guardrails must be provided when the trench is over 30" wide and deeper than 6 ft?
8. If water is seeping from the walls or flowing in a trench, it is always classified as C.
9. If the soil has large amounts of sand, it is always classified as C.
10. The 4 most common types of cave-in protection are sloping, benching, shoring and trench boxes.
11. A competent person must be onsite.
12. Escape ladders are required for all trenches deeper than 4 ft when employees are in the trench.