

# MOCGA Toolbox Talk

# Excavation Slips Trips & Falls



## SAFETY TIPS

### EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED!

- All employees on the jobsite are responsible for removing and preventing slip, trip & fall hazards.
- All employees are responsible for keeping walking and working surfaces clear of slip and trip hazards.
- Employees are responsible for taking action against slip, trip & fall hazards.

### STAY AWARE!

- Rocks, dirt, uneven surfaces can cause ankle injuries.
- Eyes on path: Keep an eye on your walking path.
- Personal fall arrest systems or guardrails must be in place whenever fall heights over 6' are encountered.

### WEAR PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR

- Wear quality protective footwear that protects the ankles and toes, and has an aggressive tread.
- Avoid wearing tennis shoes or light footwear on any construction jobsite.

### JOBSITE AND WORK AREA HOLES

- Use caution around the following fall hazards:
  - Sewer manholes and utility vault doors
  - Trenches
  - Leading edge fall hazards
  - Ditches and culverts
- Protect workers from:
  - Objects or workers falling into holes
  - Tripping / stepping in or through holes
- Cover holes or provide warning guardrails.

**Introduction:** Slips, trips and falls are a leading construction employee injury. Slips, trips and falls can lead to minor injuries but can also produce severe injuries and death. Excavation and construction jobsites expose employees to steep, rough and muddy surfaces, debris and machine hazards. Slips, trips and falls can be prevented through jobsite maintenance and employee awareness. Review the following safety information with jobsite employees.

### USE THREE-POINT CONTACT WHEN MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING MACHINES, TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT.

- Keep grab rails and machine steps in good repair and clear of tools, chains and mud buildup. Repair if damaged.
- Don't jump from machines. Knee and ankle injuries could result.
- Don't climb on areas of the machine marked "not a step". Hoods, tires and fenders can cause a slippery fall hazard.
- Make sure all flood lighting functions. Good lighting helps reduce falls from machines.
- Keep a flashlight handy during night work.
- Keep an eye out for potholes, and "ankle twisters" in parking lots or on jobsites.

### BACK AT THE SHOP AND OFFICE

- Try to keep floors clean and free of slip and trip hazards like water, cords and parts.
- Wipe up grease & oil and water left from machines.
- Cover lubricant and fluid leaks with kitty litter. Sweep it up once spills have dried.
- Clear shop and office floors of water by using a squeegee, wet-dry vac or fan.
- Remove old parts and scrap regularly.
- Install guard railing on exposed stair openings or mezzanines.
- Keep shop floor drains & maintenance pits covered
- Keep air and torch hoses, extension cords picked up when not in use
- Make sure the shop dog or cat won't trip up an employee or visitor

*These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and the Missouri Common Ground Alliance assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a qualified safety professional.*

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DATE OF TRAINING	INSTRUCTOR NAME
COMPANY NAME	LOCATION OF TRAINING
PARTICIPANT NAMES	
SAFETY MEETING NOTES	