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Safe Work Practice

Name of Job: Excavating and Trenching	Development Date: March 29th, 2011	Developed By: CSNS
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Possible Hazards Present

Pain or injury from physical overexertion	Exposure to rock dust.	Working in extreme temperatures and UV radiation.	Working with hand tools, powered tools and heavy powered equipment
Use of various machinery and tools.	Risk of eye injury from flying particles.	Working in trenches	Use of various machinery and tools.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Devices Recommended

Hearing Protection	Eye Protection	Foot protection	Fall Arrest Equipment
Respirator Equipment	Skin Protection	Hearing Protection	

What are some good general safe work practices?

- **DO** ensure that prior to commencement of any excavation that all underground and/or overhead lines have been identified, exposed and well marked/flagged.
- **DO** ensure that traffic near roads or busy access ways is under control.
- **DO** use traffic controllers/flaggers.
- **DO** set up barricades.
- **DO** provide ladders in immediate area for access/egress of trenches, excavations.
- **DO** ensure that here the cut back method is not possible, provide timber shoring, trench jacks, sheet piling, cage or other approved method.

Please note: This document is for information purposes only as a guide. The safe job procedures (SJP) and safe work practices (SWP) created for your workplace should reflect your organizations processes, equipment and hazards as identified by a hazard analysis. Construction Safety Nova Scotia does not assume responsibility for the use of information in this document. If assistance is needed to complete a SWP and SJP for your organization please contact CSNS member services at constructionsafetyns.ca or 1.800.971.3888.