



Guidelines for Safe Equipment Operation

READ OPERATOR'S MANUAL

Each machine is supplied with an operator's manual in a designated compartment. The operator's manual contains important safety and operational information. Read it thoroughly before operating your equipment.

UNDERSTAND EQUIPMENT OPERATION

After reading your operator's manual, familiarize yourself with all control functions on equipment. Spend enough time to understand how to properly operate the equipment before using.

Note: Trenching/tilling/cutting direction is generally toward the operator.

WEAR A SEATBELT

All seated operator machines are equipped with a seatbelt. It is very important that you wear a seatbelt while operating equipment, as all mobile equipment can tip over.

KEEP OTHERS AT LEAST SIX FEET AWAY

While operating equipment, keep bystanders and other workers at least six feet away from the reach of equipment. Stop the machine if anyone gets too close.

USE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Wear appropriate protective equipment such as safety glasses, earplugs, a hard hat, gloves, and steel-toe boots.

CALL 811 BEFORE DIGGING

Call 811 for your local one-call utility locating services. Also, contact any utilities that don't subscribe to one-call. Locations are not exact. Only hand digging is allowed within the hand-dig zone on either side of the locate. Check local regulations for the width of the hand-dig zone.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



STANDARD COLOR CODES FOR UTILITY MARKINGS

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Red – electric | Blue – drinking water |
| Orange – telecommunication | Violet – reclaimed water |
| Yellow – natural gas | Pink – unidentified facilities |
| Green – sewer/waste | White – proposed excavation |

USE PROPER TIE DOWNS

When hauling equipment, it is very important to use the proper size, type and number of tie downs. Equipment is marked with tie down locations.

USE EQUIPMENT CAREFULLY

Before using, look over your equipment. Visually inspect for leaks, loose fittings or hardware. If anything doesn't look right, do not use equipment until it is corrected.

UNDERSTAND ALERTS ON EQUIPMENT



Always heed the messages indicated by the alerts on your equipment. Your first priority is your safety and the safety of those around you.

For operator's manuals and safety videos, visit ditchwitch.com/safe.

Note: This guide is intended only as a quick reference/reminder to reinforce information provided in the operator's manual. Thoroughly read and understand the equipment's operator's manual before using.

DON'T LEARN SAFETY BY ACCIDENT

