

2 Safety

2.1 General concerns

We've had very few accidents on site, and we want to keep it that way. If you follow the 25 rules, there should be no problems.

1. Never run in or around the trenches.
2. Never sit or stand on the balk (trench edge) or the top of profiles: these can collapse, causing serious injuries.
3. Don't walk along the walls; the stones are sometimes loose.
4. Never run on your way up to or down from the site. In the summer the grass can be very slippery. If you start to fall, drop whatever you're carrying to reduce the impact.
5. If you notice any problems in the path to the site, tell the Assistant Director immediately.
6. Don't listen to music (radios, walkmans, etc.) on site.
7. No smoking on site or the lab, where there are flammable chemicals.
8. Never light a match on site.
9. Never leave tools where people might trip over them, or where they obstruct someone's path.
10. Always leave shovels face down, so that no one can tread on the blade and flip up the handle, causing injuries.
11. Always gather up your tools and store them tidily, at a safe distance from the trench's edge, when you're on a break.
12. Always keep your backpack in the designated area, not in or near your trench.
13. Never overfill a bucket or barrow. It's easy to hurt your back.
14. If a barrow starts to tip over, let it fall as gently as possible. Don't try to catch it.
15. Be sure you always know where other people are working in your trench, and make sure that anyone using picks or shovels has adequate room.
16. Pay close attention if you use a knife to cut anything at all. Always make sure the blade is put away after use.
17. Watch out for injuries from tool use. Blisters are almost unavoidable, but if your back or wrists start hurting, tell your trench supervisor or the Assistant Director.
18. Never throw anything near the trenches.
19. Notice where there are strings around the trenches. Usually if you trip on a string it'll just pull out a nail, which is annoying, but some of the strings are attached to large stakes and if you trip you'll fall and get hurt.
20. Drink lots of water on site—3 liters per day is a good baseline.
21. If you're sensitive to the sun, wear long sleeves and pants, a hat, and sunscreen.
22. Know where the first-aid box is kept.
23. Never pretend or make jokes about injuries; it makes it hard to know when something's serious.
24. Always drive at safe speeds; never drive if alcohol may impair your judgment.
25. **Use common sense.** Most accidents happen when people aren't paying attention.

2.2 Hygiene

With a large group of people in the field, hygiene is a safety issue, so follow these rules.

There are no bathroom facilities on site, but there are plenty of trees. Bring your own toilet paper with you. If you need to relieve yourself, go well out of sight, and keep away from the paths we use. There are plenty of loose stones; place one or more over anything you leave behind.

To preserve some decency, we ask that in the main team working in zone A, ladies use the east slope of the hill (toward the left as you look back toward Salemi) and gentlemen use the right.

In the dig house, don't flush anything other than a little toilet paper down the toilets. They block very easily. Don't leap on and off the toilet; the plastic seats break easily.

With garbage, there's one major rule: anything you bring up to site, take away with you. Never leave empty water bottles, yogurt containers, wrappers, etc., behind you. If you don't finish a water bottle and want to leave it on site for the next day, put your name on it and leave it in the designated area for backpacks. All other water bottles will be emptied on the trees.

2.3 *Consideration*

Everything will go well if people are considerate.

Don't take excessively long showers; sometimes water runs short.

If you see someone carrying heavy things when you don't have anything, share their load. If the cooks arrive with the food and water while you're at the dig house, help them unload the cars. They work hard enough without doing weightlifting.

Don't take other people's things out of the refrigerators.

