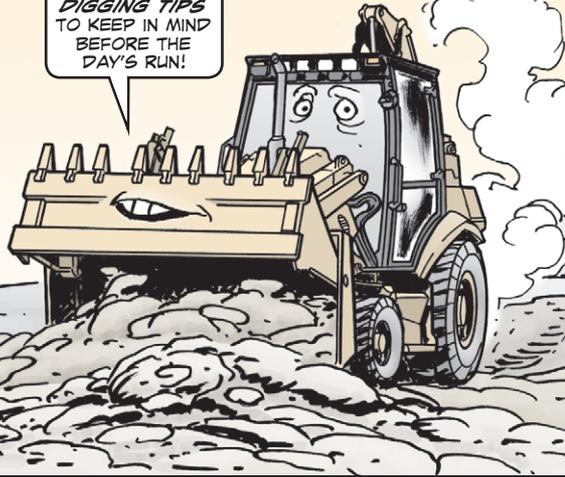


TIME FOR SOME DIGGING

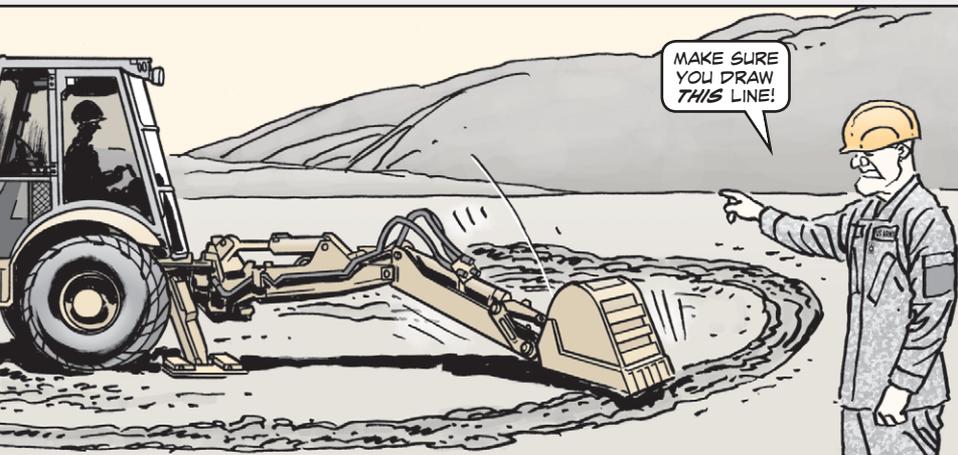
HERE'RE SOME DIGGING TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND BEFORE THE DAY'S RUN!



Safety and PMCS go hand-in-hand with the Case backhoe loader. For tip-top backhoe operations, keep these pointers in mind before and during the day's work. You'll find this info in WP 0012-8 and 0012-9 of TM 5-2420-231-10.

Draw the Line

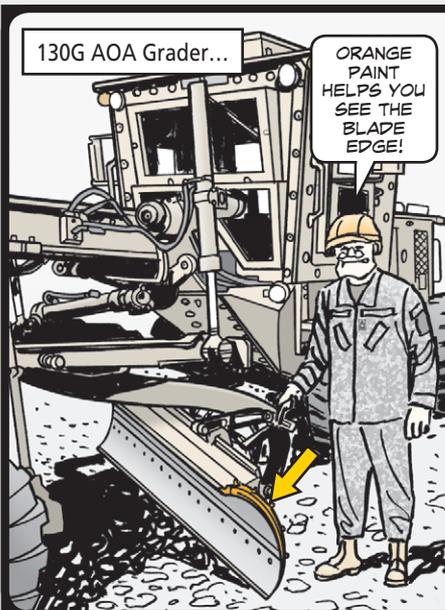
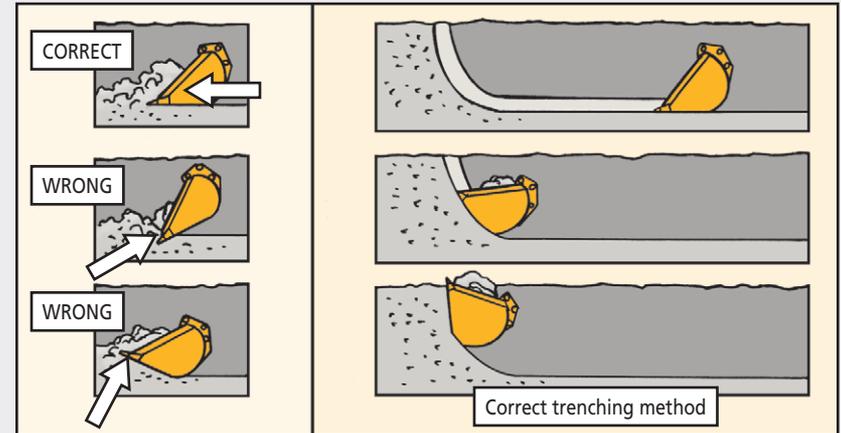
A good rule of thumb before you start digging is to extend the backhoe boom and draw a line in the dirt. This line forms a half circle that's almost 18 feet from the back of the vehicle. This half circle acts as a "danger area" warning, reminding personnel to stay out of your work area.



Moving the Bucket

Do **not** backfill a trench with the backhoe by swinging its bucket against soil. This type of movement causes unnecessary wear and tear that damages the bucket and boom.

You'll also want to use some TLC when moving the backhoe completely to the side. In some positions, the backhoe will bump into the vehicle's stabilizers. Too much bumping will damage the stabilizer's hydraulic cylinders.



Paint Blade Edge Orange

Operators, the edge of the blade is hard to see when you're inside the 130G grader cab with add-on-armor. Here's how to solve the problem. Get your CO's approval to have your mechanic paint the blade's back edge with orange or yellow paint. That way you'll have a visual cue of where the blade is, especially when it's turned near the cab steps.