



Success Stories

RURAL FIREFIGHTERS DELIVERING AGRICULTURAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (RF-DASH)

umash.umn.edu/rfdash

The Problem:

People who work in agriculture are 8-10 times more likely to die on the job than the average U.S. worker. Inadequate numbers of safety consultants exist to assist farmers in making their farms safer.

The Solution:

The "Rural Firefighters Delivering Agricultural Safety and Health," or RF-DASH, project is training and equipping firefighters/EMS to help fill this need and spread ag health and safety knowledge in their service areas.

THE IMPACT

- ⇒ RF-DASH has been highlighted by **multiple media sources** around the U.S. and Canada including: Progressive Dairyman, Daily Dispatch, Western Producer, and more.
- ⇒ **Over 70 firefighters/EMS** have been trained as trainers from WI, MN, NY, MA, OH, UT, ID, WA, NE, and PA.
- ⇒ New trainers have started to train dozens more and have begun to make their own presentations.
- ⇒ The program is in line with many **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards**, specifically the NFPA 1300 standard on Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development.

Five-part classroom and hands-on training with easy to use, free tools.

1. Introduction to Agricultural Emergencies
2. Preplanning and Mapping Farms with NFMCFarmMAPPER.com
A pre-plan map of farms to expedite response times.
3. Farm Hazard Analysis with Saferfarm.org - A hazard analysis tool to recommend abatement of common farm hazards
4. Farm First Aid - train bystanders on immediate response to an emergency while waiting for first responders
5. Approaching the Farm Community

WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY:

"The opportunity to help the people who do so much for our communities is something we would never say 'no' to. We were glad to learn ways we could be safer here, just by hosting the group on the farm."

- Paul and Barb Liebenstein, Wolf Creek Dairy

"Excellent course. Very useful information and great ideas for pre-planning farm emergencies."

- Wisconsin EMS Association participant




WATCH A HIGHLIGHT VIDEO AT:
bcove.video/2P4PEAH



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