

The UMASH Connection Farms and People

A newsletter of the Upper Midwest
Agricultural Safety and Health Center



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UMASH SHINES A LIGHT ON SAFETY AT MINNESOTA FARMFEST

On August 1, 2017, UMASH sponsored a panel discussion at the Minnesota Farmfest. The discussion, **Farm Safety: Protecting You, Your Family, Your Visitors, and Your Bottom Line**, was moderated by Minnesota Safety Council President Paul Aasen.

Farmer David Glamm began the panel by sharing his story of a serious injury he sustained on his farm, and how it threatened not only his life, but his business. *"In that split second, my life changed forever,"* says David. He was followed by University of Minnesota Environmental Health Professor Marizen Ramirez, Occupational Medicine Physician Dr. Matt Keifer, and Northstar Mutual Sr. VP. Gary Metz.

Panelist Marizen Ramirez provided insight on the issues of roadside safety, reporting that 47% of farming deaths are transportation related. Marizen pointed out the most effective way to utilize lights and markings on tractors, so they are more visible to drivers passing by. *"The most effective way to prevent roadside injuries is through education and awareness,"* says Marizen.

Dr. Matt Keifer spoke about the effects of manure gases and the many detrimental health effects it has on farm families. Children are especially susceptible to these potentially fatal gases. *"Farmers are incredibly inventive, but they sometimes wander into areas that are a bit risky,"* says Dr. Keifer.

Lastly, Gary Metz spoke about the wellbeing of an individual's farming business in regards to his experience working in insurance. *"When farm safety is ignored, things can go bad,"* says Gary. According to Gary, business and personal life are intertwined in a farmer's life, and by cutting corners on safety, both human cost and business costs are at risk.

The panel discussion provided a wide range of safety advice from people in the farming industry who see the implications every day. Paul Aasen began and concluded the panel by mentioning that **safety is not something the farming community can take for granted.** *"A little time is all it takes to be safer,"* says Paul.

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Read the full story at:

umash.umn.edu/spotlight-farmfest-panel

SAFETY ALERT - MICOTIL 300 (TILMICOSIN)

The FDA has issued an alert about the potential hazards to people exposed to the animal drug Micotil 300 (tilmicosin). People exposed to Micotil 300 should immediately seek medical care.



READ THE ALERT

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

UMASH and the other ten US Ag Centers participated in **National Farm Safety and Health Week** to highlight agricultural safety and health and available safety resources for agricultural workers and their families.

The theme *“Putting Farm Safety into Practice”* stresses the importance of building safety into your farm practices every day.



HOW ARE YOU PUTTING SAFETY INTO PRACTICE ON YOUR FARM?

- ✓ **Check-out the AgriSafe webinars** from National Farm Safety and Health Week. The recordings are available for on-demand viewing *through October 13th*.
www.agrisafe.org/nfshweek2017

Staying Cool In Your Region's Heat

Respiratory Protection and On-Farm Fit Testing for Agricultural Workers

Children and Youth: Living, working and playing safely on farms

Addressing the Epidemic of ATV Injuries and Deaths

Prevention Strategies to Reduce Respiratory Exposures and Illnesses in Agriculture

- ✓ **Visit the U.S. Agricultural Centers You Tube Channel** with over 100 videos on agricultural safety and health, including many in Spanish. Subscribe to be notified when new videos are available.
- ✓ **Connect with us on social media** for safety tips, news and resources you can put into practice on your farm or worksite.
- ✓ **Find the US Agricultural Centers in your region** and learn about their research and available safety resources.

MORE RESOURCES TO PUT SAFETY INTO PRACTICE

UMASH Farm Safety Check

umash.umn.edu/umash-farm-safety-check

Downloadable safety checklists on a different topic each month, customizable for your farm operation.

Cultivate Safety

www.cultivatesafety.org

Resources for keeping children and youth safe in agricultural and rural environments.

NASDOnline.org

www.nasdonline.org

A national database of agricultural health and safety resources.

eXtension.org

www.extension.org

Collaborative resource for land-grant universities for extension professionals and the public.

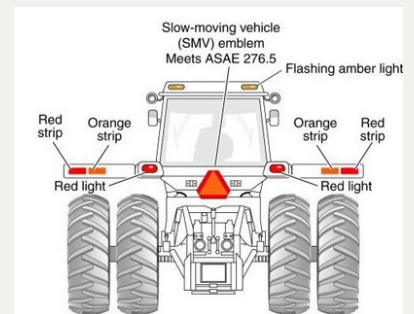
ROADWAY SAFETY DURING HARVEST SEASON



Have you, a family member or employee been injured or had a close call driving farm equipment on public roadways?

Here are a few lighting and marking tips from our colleagues at the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) to help you make sure your farm equipment can be easily seen by other drivers on the road.

- ⇒ Outline your equipment with reflective marking on the widest points. (see figure)
- ⇒ Use a slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblem, and keep it clean and visible.
- ⇒ Make sure all equipment lights work, such as flashing amber lights, and turn the lights on as you drive on the roads (even in the daytime).
- ⇒ Consider adding red taillights to towed equipment.
- ⇒ If possible, avoid traveling on roadways in the dark.
- ⇒ Always use turning signals.



LEARN MORE

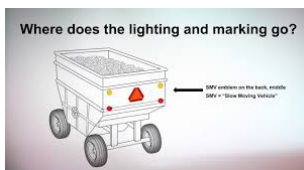
AG HEALTH AND SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

When machines meet the road: resources to prevent farm equipment crashes on roadways

READ THE ARTICLE AT:

umash.umn.edu/spotlight-roadway-safety

YOUTUBE VIDEOS



Agricultural Vehicle Lighting and Marking Requirements



Roadway Safety and Agricultural Vehicle Lighting and Marking

Are you using ATVs on your farm operation?

A new **6-part video series, Safer ATV Riding on Farms and Ranches**, is now available. Ideal for training workers and youth about the dangers of ATV riding and safer ATV riding on or off the farm. Video topics:

- Introduction to Safer Riding on ATVs in Agriculture
- Clothing and Protective Gear that You Need when Riding your ATV in Agriculture
- Know how to operate your ATV controls to improve your safety
- Riding Strategies for Improving your Safety on ATVs in Agriculture
- Riding Uphill, Downhill, Traversing, and Other Advanced Techniques on your ATV
- Review of Key Points for Safer ATV Riding in Agriculture.

UMASH EMERGING ISSUES PROGRAM



The goal of the **Emerging Issues Program** is to identify and respond to emerging or re-emerging issues that may impact the health and well-being of the agricultural workforce and their families. **We are asking for your help to keep us informed about emerging issues in agricultural safety and health.**

If you see or hear of a new or re-emerging issue in agricultural health and safety that we should be aware of, please complete our **NEW online submission tool**.

umash.umn.edu/emerging-issues

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety Education and Research Center

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 27

Grants up to \$20,000 are available to occupational health and safety researchers in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

mcohs.umn.edu/pilot-projects-rfp

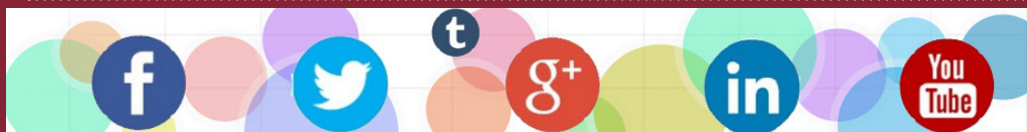


WISCONSIN TRACTOR ROLLBAR REBATES AVAILABLE FOR 2017-18

The Wisconsin Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS) Rebate Program has been funded for a sixth consecutive year, enabling Wisconsin farmers to retrofit rollbars onto their tractors at a reduced cost.

[READ THE PRESS RELEASE](#)

GET CONNECTED



Let's get social! Stay connected with UMASH on social media.



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YouTube Channel



Join Email List

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dairy Farm Safety Symposium
Dairy World Expo
October 5
Madison, Wisconsin

National FFA Convention
October 25-28
Indianapolis, Indiana

2017 Women Food and Ag Network (WFAN) Conference
November 2-4
Madison, Wisconsin

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH)
November 14-15
Pella, Iowa

Minnesota Milk Producers Dairy Conference & Expo
November 28-29
Welch, Minnesota

National Association of Agricultural Educators Convention
December 5-9
Nashville, Tennessee

Learn more and view full event list at:
umash.umn.edu/upcoming-events