



# Success Stories

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

[umash.umn.edu/rfdash](http://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 their knowledge to farmers in their service areas.

## THE IMPACT

- ⇒ RFDASH has been highlighted in a **four-part series of Progressive Dairyman articles** with a national audience.
- ⇒ **12 firefighters/EMS have been trained** in the program covering more than **48,000 square miles**.

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

1. Introduction to Agricultural Emergencies
2. Farm MAPPER - a pre-plan map of farms to expedite response times in emergencies
3. SaferFarm - a hazard analysis tool to recommend abatement of common farm hazards
4. Farm First Aid - to train bystanders on immediate response to an emergency while waiting for first responders
5. Approaching the Farm Community



### What participants are saying about the training:

*"Loved the content and passion driving this project. I know it will go far. Well organized, easy to understand and use material."*

*"Fun training, hands-on practice, safe environment to ask questions and learn."*

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