



## Rural Firefighters Delivering Agricultural Safety and Health (RF-DASH)

**SUCCESS STORIES**



### THE PROBLEM

People who work in agriculture are **7 times more likely** to die on the job than the average U.S. worker. There are inadequate numbers of safety consultants to assist farmers in making their farms safer.

**Farmers and first responders unite to improve farm safety and prevent agricultural incidents in rural communities.**



### OUR RESPONSE:

Firefighters are trusted leaders in rural and agricultural communities. **Strong partnerships between firefighters and farmers can help make farms safer.**

## A FIVE-PART “TRAIN-THE-TRAINER” PROGRAM

RF-DASH uses a **train-the-trainer approach** with a curriculum that aligns with many National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards.

The five-part training covers:

### 1. Introduction to Agricultural Emergencies

Causes of the most common farm emergencies and strategies to expedite and improve responses.

### 2. Preplanning and Mapping Farms

Preplanning and mapping farms to expedite response times in an emergency using the free, online, mobile-friendly tool, Farm-MAPPER.

### 3. Farm Hazard Analysis

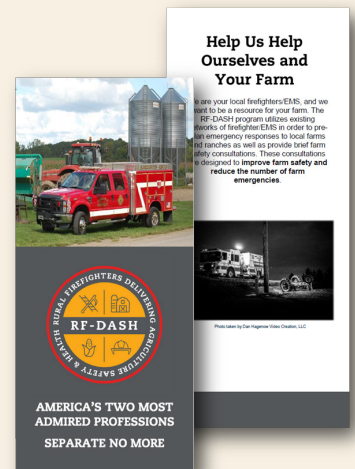
Common hazards found on farms and using Saferfarm.org and the Farm Hazard Analysis Tool (FARM-HAT) to correct them and reduce the risk of injury on farms.

### 4. Farm First Aid

How to manage a victim injured in a farm incident while emergency services are en route to the scene.

### 5. Approaching the Farm

Reaching out and approaching the farming community to implement the RF-DASH program on their area’s operations.

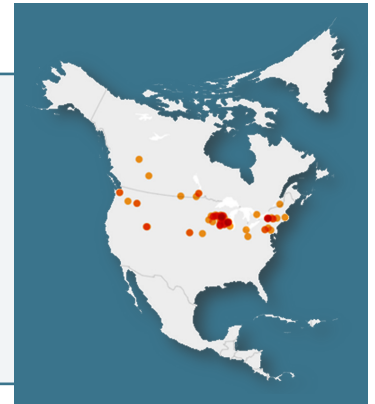


AMERICA'S TWO MOST ADMIRABLE PROFESSIONS  
SEPARATE NO MORE



## RF-DASH HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 100 firefighters/EMS have been trained as trainers in the program from 10 states and 5 Canadian provinces. They have gone on to train over 500 agricultural safety and health professionals, educators, community members and farmers.
- The media has picked up on the successes, with articles in key agricultural outlets.
- RF-DASH is working with representatives from FEMA, APHIS, and the National Response Team to help rural communities prepare for agricultural hazards and bridge gaps in current emergency preparedness planning.



### Community 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

*"I think that's the plus of the program, taking rural firefighters and engaging them with that population. It's a small enough community that everyone knows each other. There's already a relationship there so-it's not a government agency or an insurance company or something threatening, it's someone who knows them and says, 'Dude, I care about you, Let's work together to make it better.'"*

- RF-DASH Trainee

**SOME FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE.  
WE FIGHT IT WITH FARMERS.**



LEARN MORE AT  
[www.rfdash.org](http://www.rfdash.org)

