

Nurture

Quarterly Newsletter of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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National Children's Center
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

"The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety strives to enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments."

Safe Agritourism

Web guide helps operators keep visitors safe

Agritourism is more popular than ever, with millions of people visiting corn mazes, pumpkin patches, pick-your-own operations and other agricultural attractions every year.

Keeping visitors safe is the purpose of the new interactive web guide, available at www.safeagritourism.com.

Farmers can select virtual walk-throughs most appropriate for their operations. These walk-throughs identify health and safety hazards and provide resources to fix the hazards. The walk-throughs and remedies are based on "Agritourism Health and Safety Guidelines for Children" (www.marshfieldclinic.org/agritourism). The guidelines were originally published in 2007 by the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, part of the National Farm Medicine Center at Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation, Marshfield, Wisconsin.

"This really helps fill a gap," said Karen Kollars, agritourism development consultant, Nebraska Tourism Commission. "It is exciting to finally have a one-stop guide available for agritourism businesses to refer to for health and safety guidelines, along with loads of practical information, resources and checklists."



Features of the interactive guide include:

- Walk-throughs that use photos to contrast improper practices with best practices and guidelines. Review questions and resource information accompany the photos.
- Checklists that operators can print and use to conduct customized walk-throughs to identify safety issues and hazards in their operations.
- Resources page with signs, policies, logs and other practical, ready-to-print items.

Project manager Marsha Salzwedel adapted the guidelines after obtaining feedback from farm owners and agritourism associations. "We asked for help from people who would use the Web page. They guided us with making the recommendations 'practical' and told us what types of resources they needed," Salzwedel said.

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Safe Agritourism *Continued from page 1*

Salzwedel thanked the external advisors: Bill Burleigh, owner, Laramie River Dude Ranch, Glendevy, Colorado; Jane Eckert, CEO, Eckert AgriMarketing, St. Louis, Missouri; Karen Kollars, agritourism development consultant, Sidney, Nebraska; Penny Leff, agritourism coordinator, University of California Small

Farm Program, Davis, California; Tami Thompson, owner, Lazy O Farm, Smithfield, North Carolina; Barb Wirkus, owner, Wirkus Jerseys, Athens, Wisconsin; and Martin Wolf, owner, Memory Lane Farm, Marshfield, Wisconsin.

Study uses advanced tractor simulator

Dr. Barbara Marlena, National Children's Center, is lead investigator on a study looking at how children of different ages process information and make decisions while driving tractors. They're using the National Advanced Driving Simulator at the University of Iowa, considered to be the world's most advanced ground vehicle simulator. The simulator enables researchers to study children's cognitive development skills in a safe setting. This two-year pilot study is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Results will assist in generating a model of developmental factors relevant for safe tractor operations by youth that can be used and tested in future research, intervention development, and policy applications. The Associated Press published an article on the study that was picked up nationally by hundreds of media outlets, including the Washington Post, Boston Globe and CBS News. Study co-investigators are Will Pickett, Ph.D., Queen's University; Richard Berg, M.S., Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation; Tim Brown, Ph.D., University of Iowa; and David Schwebel, Ph.D., University of Alabama, Birmingham.



Credit: National Advanced Driving Simulator



Three mini-grants awarded in FY 2013

The National Children's Center federal award includes annual funding for mini-grants that allow community organizations to conduct small-scale projects and pilot studies.

A requirement this year was that each application clearly indicate how it would address a priority in childhood agricultural injury prevention as outlined in the "Blueprint for Protecting Children in Agriculture: The 2012 National Action Plan."

Since 2002, 43 projects have been funded in amounts up to \$20,000. More than half of the projects have addressed vulnerable populations.

The awardees for FY 2013:

- Yvonne Chen, Ph.D., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, "Ultraviolet Radiation monitoring and Intervention Strategies for Preventing Skin Cancer Among Farm Children." Goal: Assess the effectiveness of an ultraviolet (UV) radiation monitoring intervention for protecting vulnerable, southwest Virginia farm children (ages 14 – 16) from overexposure to UV radiation.
- Ryan Kelly, M.S., Mississippi Rural Health Association, "The Mississippi Consortium for the Prevention of Agricultural Injury among Youth (MCPAIY)." Goal: Develop the Mississippi Consortium for the Prevention of Agricultural Injury among Youth.
- Rebecca G. Lawver, Ph.D., Utah State University, "Policies and Procedures that Protect Hired Youth Agricultural Workers: Examining High School Supervised Agricultural Experiences Programs." Goal: Implement the recommended strategy of guiding western agricultural employers in strategies for hiring youth to work in developmentally appropriate jobs with supervision, training, and opportunities for career advancement within the agriculture industry.

News in brief

Free! 2013 CASN safety calendars

Get 12 months of safety messages with the 2013 Childhood Agricultural Safety Network Calendar. Topics include all-terrain vehicles, agritourism, supervision, weather safety, personal protective equipment, poison control and – new this year – a child development chart that helps parents assign appropriate agricultural work to their kids. Two dozen organizations collaborated on the calendar, the most ever. To order copies, contact the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu, 1-800-662-6900.



The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) held its annual in-person meeting on June 25, 2012, in Burlington, Vermont, as part of the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health conference. Thirty organizations were represented.

Blueprint re-launch – copies available

Child advocates, farm organizations, safety practitioners, researchers, policy makers, funding agencies and corporate sponsors are encouraged to set their own priorities consistent with the goals and recommended strategies proposed in the, "Blueprint for Protecting Children in Agriculture: The 2012 National Action Plan" (www.marshfieldclinic.org/blueprint). The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety guided development of this plan with input from the general public and leading researchers. Published in April 2012, the Blueprint will be re-launched with activation of several goals at the 2013 North American Agricultural Safety Summit, September 25 – 27, 2013, Marriott Minneapolis City Center Hotel (www.ashca.com). Free hard copies of the Blueprint are available by contacting the National Children's Center, nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu, 1-800-662-6900.



**2013
NORTH
AMERICAN
AGRICULTURAL
SAFETY
SUMMIT**

Study examines economic impact of injuries

"Incidence and cost of injury among youth in agricultural settings, United States, 2001-2006," by Eduard Zaloshnja, Ph.D., Ted Miller, Ph.D., and Bruce Lawrence has been published in the journal *Pediatrics*, (2012 April; 129(4):728-34). They found that an average of 26,655 agricultural injury incidents occurred annually to youth (ages 0-19) in the United States during the period 2001-2006. These injuries cost society an estimated \$1.423 billion per year. Fatalities alone cost an estimated \$420 million per year. Most agricultural youth injuries were not work related. They found that, similarly to adult agricultural injuries, youth agricultural injuries tend to be more severe and more costly than nonagricultural injuries. Only 1.4% of injured youth in the United States were hospitalized in 2000, but 14% of youth injured in agriculture were hospitalized in 2001-2006. The authors are with the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, Beltsville, Maryland. This paper follows two related articles: "Incidence and cost of nonfatal farm youth injury, United States, 2001-2006," by Zaloshnja, Miller and Barbara Lee (*Journal of Agromedicine*. 2011;16(1):6-18); and "Impact of youth injuries on the uninsured farm family's economic viability," by Zaloshnja and Miller (*International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion*. 2012;19(2):109-13).

AG CONNECT safety zone

The AEM Safety Zone at AG CONNECT Expo & Summit 2013 (www.agconnect.com) will offer an interactive exhibit area with educational activities and demonstrations on the latest developments in farm and ranch safety and health. AG CONNECT, the international agricultural event of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), is scheduled for January 29 – 31, 2013, at the Kansas City Convention Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Activities within the safety zone are being coordinated by the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program. "The AEM Safety Zone will give show attendees a chance to see a variety of farm safety and health demonstrations and learn about basic safety and health precautions that can help prevent serious injury or death," said Susan Reynolds, executive director – programs for Progressive Agriculture Foundation. Safety Zone participants will include: Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America; AgriSafe Network; AEM Safety; American Farm Bureau Federation; Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health; International Society of Agricultural Safety and Health; Kentucky Department of Agriculture; National Children Center for Rural and Ag Safety and Health; National Education Center for Agricultural Safety; National Farm Medicine Center; Penn State University; Progressive Agriculture Safety Days; and Purdue University.

AG CONNECT
2013 EXPO & SUMMIT

Children's Center director addresses Australian conference

Dr. Barbara Lee delivered the keynote to the sixth, "Are You Remotely Interested" Remote Health Conference, Mount Isa, Queensland, Australia. Dr. Lee delivered her Aug. 2 talk, "Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention: Global Obligations and Opportunities," from the Marshfield Clinic video conference center. For recordings of this and other presentations, go to www.micrrh.jcu.edu.au/conferences-workshops/2012-remotely-interested/Program/

Schedule of upcoming events

January 29 - 31, 2013

AG CONNECT Expo & Summit (Safety Zone)
Kansas City, Missouri, www.agconnect.com

February 20 - 22, 2013

Western Forum for Migrant and Community Health
San Francisco, California, www.nwrpca.org/

May 7 - 10, 2013

National Farmworker Health Conference
San Diego, California, www.nachc.com/

June 23 - 27, 2013

International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health
Sandusky, Ohio, www.isash.org

September 25 - 27, 2013

North American 2013 Agricultural Safety Summit
Minneapolis, Minnesota, www.ashca.com

Nurture is a publication of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (a program of Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin).

It is published three times each year to disseminate children's rural health and safety information to professionals in the fields of health and safety, agri-business, the media, and others.

Contact the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, Marshfield Clinic, 1000 North Oak Ave., Marshfield, WI 54449-5790; phone 1-800-662-6900 or 715-389-4999; fax 715-389-4996.

Web: www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs

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NCCRAHS Newsletter Board:

Scott Heiberger, Editor

Marsha Salzwedel

Barbara Lee, Center Director

Barbara Marlenga

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