



## CHILD SAFETY ON THE FARM PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HELLO, I'M USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR JONATHAN COPPESS. MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS ARE KILLED, AND ANOTHER 23,000 ARE INJURED, EVERY YEAR ON FARMS AND RANCHES IN THE UNITED STATES. FARM TRAGEDIES ARE NOT RANDOM. THEY ARE PREDICTABLE. THEY ARE PREVENTABLE. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO LEARN PRECAUTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO PREVENT CHILDREN FROM GETTING INJURED ON YOUR FARM. DON'T ALLOW CHILDREN TO ROAM FREELY ON THE FARM. DESIGN FENCED "SAFE PLAY AREAS" FOR THEM. INSPECT YOUR FARM REGULARLY FOR HAZARDS THAT CAN INJURE CHILDREN AND REMOVE THESE IMMEDIATELY. IDENTIFY AND PLACE LATCHES ON DANGEROUS AREAS SUCH AS FARM SHOPS, CHEMICAL STORAGE AREAS AND LIVESTOCK PENS. BE SURE THAT CHILDREN ARE NOT PERFORMING TASKS THAT ARE BEYOND THEIR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES AND THAT CHILDREN PERFORMING AGE-APPROPRIATE TASKS ARE SUPERVISED. ALWAYS TURN EQUIPMENT OFF, LOWER HYDRAULICS AND REMOVE THE KEY BEFORE LEAVING MACHINERY UNATTENDED. DON'T ALLOW CHILDREN TO RIDE WITH YOU ON TRACTORS AND EQUIPMENT OR INVITE THEM INTO THE FARM SHOP, LIVESTOCK BARN, OR GRAIN BINS.

PLEASE LEARN ABOUT AND IMPLEMENT PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES THAT WILL HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN--AMERICA'S NEXT GENERATION OF FARMERS.

