

## NIOSH Town Hall Meeting

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the federal agency that conducts research and makes recommendations for occupational safety and health. Ten years ago, NIOSH joined with workers, employers, and academic institutions to develop the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA). This effort established a collaborative blueprint for planning and conducting research to prevent work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths.

As NORA reaches its 10-year milestone, a new sector-based agenda is being created. Sectors include agriculture, forestry and fishing; mining; construction; manufacturing; wholesale and retail trade; transportation, warehousing and utilities; services, healthcare and social assistance.

NIOSH hosted 12 town hall meetings across the U.S. seeking input on current priorities in worker safety and

health. The first regional meeting was held at The University of Iowa on February 17, 2006. An estimated 75 attendees from the Midwest participated with 27 stakeholders using Elluminate (an interactive web-based software provided by The University of Iowa, College of Public Health, Department of Occupational and Environmental Health). Suggested priorities presented at this meeting included: occupational injury surveillance, workplace violence, ventilation, control measures, organized labor needs, international health, the aging worker, worker health and productivity, and tinnitus. A multitude of agricultural safety and health topics were also suggested including: farm safety and children, agricultural machinery safety, behavioral health, and pesticide safety. Online comments can still be submitted at [www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/comments.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/comments.html).

## GPCAH Joins Initiative

The Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) is partnering with other agricultural safety and health research centers across the United States to develop a national public health campaign for preventing tractor-related injuries. The initiative, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, will help the centers fill current knowledge gaps and explore new methods to promote safer tractor use.

Collectively, tractor overturns, runovers, collisions and power-train entanglements are the leading cause of death in U.S. agriculture. Each year, more than 250 farmers, farm employees, and their family members die in such incidents; half of these occur when a tractor overturns. Although no official statistics are available, researchers estimate that 4 severe or disabling non-fatal injuries occur from tractor overturns for every overturn fatality.

Rollover protective structures (ROPS), when used with seatbelts, have proven effective at virtually eliminating fatalities and serious injuries. However, more than half of the approximately 4.7 million

agricultural tractors in the U.S. lack ROPS.

Surveillance conducted by the Iowa Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program found that Iowa experienced an average of 16.5 tractor-related fatalities per year between 1994 and 2003. Between 2003 and 2005, an average of 11 Iowans died each year in tractor overturn accidents.

Under this new initiative, the centers will:

- Study the costs of injuries from farm tractor overturns and highway collisions.
- Assess the impact of potential changes in ROPS standards, regulations and technology.
- Examine financial incentives to retrofit tractors with ROPS.
- Create a database of potential partners for a national tractor safety campaign.



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## Congratulations to Youth Grant Recipients

Each year I-CASH designates funds for community grants targeted at the prevention of farm-related injury to young people. This year the Youth Grant Committee recommended Tractor Safety, Agricultural Health, ATV Safety, and Animals/Livestock as focus areas. We are pleased to announce the following recipients for 2006 and their projects.

- **AgriSafe Rural Neighbors Butler & Grundy Counties** - *ATV Safety for Youth* - High school students will be trained in ATV safety so they can present ATV safety programs to middle school students.
- **Town & Country FS4JK** - *ATV/Snowmobile Safety and Slow Moving Vehicle Awareness* - Educational tools will be developed for use at area safety events in Franklin, Grundy and Hardin counties.
- **Guthrie County Extension** - *Safety Awareness and Farm Education Training for Youth* - An all day school enrichment program for area elementary school students will be provided.
- **Jefferson County Extension** - *Farm Safety Day Camp* - A safety day camp will be offered during the Jefferson County Fair.
- **Kossuth FFA Farm Safety Chapter** - *Tractor Safety Certification Course* - A tractor safety course will be provided for youth age 12-15 in Kossuth and neighboring counties.
- **Marion County Extension** - *Tractor Safety Certification Course* - A tractor safety course will be provided for youth age 13-15 in Marion and surrounding counties.
- **Ventura FFA** - *Ag. Awareness Farm Safety Display* - A farm safety display will be created to educate elementary school students.

**NORA Symposium 2006** will be held April 18-20, 2006 in Washington, DC. NIOSH, in partnership with the National Safety Council, will celebrate the success of the first decade of the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) and launch its second decade at the NORA Symposium 2006. The next decade of NORA will use a sector-based approach to better guide research focusing on improved technology and work practices for safety and health in work places. These themes will be explored through plenary speakers, awards, presentations of scientific results and workshops. For more information visit [www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp06/default.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp06/default.html).

Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH) will hold its annual **Spring Meeting** for the Board of Directors, Advisory Council members, and other interested parties on April 12, 2006 at the Urbandale Public Library, Urbandale, IA. If you are interested in attending please register for the meeting by contacting Aaron Kline at 319-335-4438 or [aaron-kline@uiowa.edu](mailto:aaron-kline@uiowa.edu).

I-CASH will host the **Agricultural Occupational Health Training** May 30-June 1 (Session 1) and June 1-3 (Session 2). Nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants, physical therapists and other health care providers are invited to participate. Both sessions are approved for continuing education credits for physicians and nurses. The training program also may be taken for three graduate credit hours from the University of Iowa College of Public Health. For more information contact Kay Mohling at 319/335-4219 or visit the I-CASH web site at [www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash](http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash).

In 1995, former President Clinton proclaimed the first full week of April as **National Public Health Week (NPHW)**. Each year since then the public health community has focused on issues that are important to improving the public's health. This year the observance of NPHW is April 3-9, and the focus is children and the built environment. The American Public Health Association and its partners will explore ways that Americans can build healthier communities and healthier kids. To find out more visit [www.apha.org/nphw](http://www.apha.org/nphw).



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## FS4JK and Great Plains Team Up to Address ATV Safety

All-terrain vehicle (ATV) use is on the rise across the United States. Unfortunately, with an increased number of users there is a steadily increasing number of injuries involving ATVs. Nearly half of all injured ATV riders are under the age of sixteen. The estimated number of children injured in ATV-related incidents increased 94% from 1993 to 2001. Ninety-five percent of children injured were riding an ATV larger than recommended for their age.

To identify how ATVs are used by youth, especially within the farm environment, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids (FS4JK) and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health developed and conducted a survey among youth attending the 2005 National FFA Convention. Youth were asked to participate by answering questions concerning current training, extra riders, helmet use, and overall ATV behavior. The survey also documented characteristics of the youth including where they lived, age, gender, and factors associated with their riding behavior. The FFA Convention served as an excellent survey site for reaching a large number of adolescents with a broad range of attitudes and behaviors.

A total of 623 surveys were completed by youth ages 12 to 20, from 43 states, who indicated that they rode ATVs. A total of 44% of the respondents were female and 56% were male. The survey results provided the following information:

- Approximately 26% of the youth surveyed never wear helmets when driving an ATV. Those who indicated they lived on a farm were less likely to wear helmets than youth who did not live on a farm.
- Girls were more likely to wear helmets when riding ATVs, but they were also more likely to allow passengers. Overall, only 22% of the youth surveyed had received ATV safety training, and more boys had received safety training (26%) than girls (16%).
- Girls, on the other hand, were more receptive to attending a future safety training course (47%) than boys (37%).
- Approximately 30% of the youth surveyed had been injured in an ATV incident, with more boys (37%) than girls (20%) hurt.

Students that completed the surveys were given drawstring bags and encouraged to attend two ATV safety sessions conducted by Farm Safety 4 Just Kids. The information gained from the survey will guide the direction of interventions targeted at preventing injuries to youth riding ATVs. Farm Safety 4 Just Kids is nearing completion of an ATV educational packet in partnership with the National 4-H ATV curriculum. The FS4JK materials include a community planning guide, posters, brochures, paper and pencil activities, and presentation information.

For more information contact Farm Safety 4 Just Kids at 1-800-423-5437 or visit their website at [www.fs4jk.org](http://www.fs4jk.org).

## calendar

April 3-9

**National Public Health Week**  
[www.apha.org/nphw/2006](http://www.apha.org/nphw/2006)

April 12

**I-CASH Spring Meeting**  
Urbandale Public Library  
Urbandale, IA.  
[www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash](http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash)

April 18-20

**NORA Symposium 2006**  
Washington, DC.  
[www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp06/default.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp06/default.html)

April 19, 2006

**Institute for Food Safety and Security Symposium**  
Ames, IA.  
[www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/ifss/home.html](http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/ifss/home.html)

May 18-20

**5th Biennial Conference on Cancer, Culture and Literacy Conference**  
Clearwater Beach, FL.  
[www.moffitt.usf.edu/about\\_moffitt/calendar/conferences/ccl/index.asp](http://www.moffitt.usf.edu/about_moffitt/calendar/conferences/ccl/index.asp)

May 30-June 3

**Agricultural Occupational Health Training - Sessions 1 and 2**  
Iowa City, IA.  
[www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash](http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash)

June 18-21

**The 16th International Congress of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health**  
Lodi, Italy  
[www.ruralhealth-lodi.net](http://www.ruralhealth-lodi.net)

June 25-30

**National Institute for Farm Safety, Inc. Annual Conference**  
Sheboygan, WI.  
[www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~agsafety/NIFS/meetings2005.htm](http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~agsafety/NIFS/meetings2005.htm)

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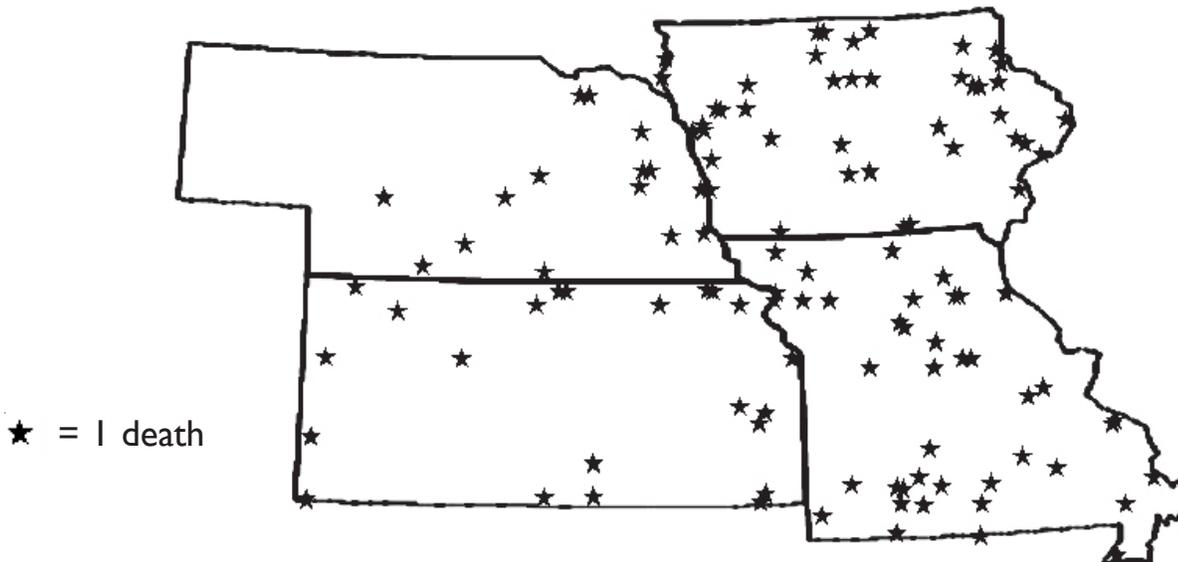
## Mark Your Calendars

### Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum - November 16, 2006

I-CASH is partnering with the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health and other safety and health specialists from Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin to organize a fall conference on rural agricultural safety and health. The conference theme will be "Strategies for Collaborating on Ag Health & Safety." Participants will choose from a variety of workshops on agricultural safety and health topics. Mark your calendars for November 16, 2006 and check the I-CASH web site at [www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash](http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash) for details.

+++++It All Adds Up

## Farm and Agricultural Deaths Calendar Year 2005



Source: Farm and Agricultural Injury Monitoring Service (FAIMS) - NewzGroup<sup>®</sup> Press Clippings.  
For additional information on farm and non-farm work fatalities visit [www.cdc.gov/niosh/face](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face).  
For more information on FAIMS contact Murray Madsen, [murray-madsen@uiowa.edu](mailto:murray-madsen@uiowa.edu) or 319/335-4481.

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