

# Approaching the Farm Community

Module Five



RURAL FIREFIGHTERS DELIVERING AGRICULTURE SAFETY & HEALTH

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## Fire and EMS Among the Farm Community

- Farmers trust family and fire/EMS personnel
- Fire/EMS are more numerous than safety professionals
- Not a financial relationship between fire/EMS and farmers



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## Many Avenues Available for Local Departments

Farmers are...

- Our neighbors
- Our members
- Other affiliations – church, service organizations, civic events
- Our established contacts (i.e., pre-existing relationships, is good and bad)



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### Our Neighbors

- Common ties
- Easy access for you & them
- Benefits easily seen
- Ownership in an event (making our area safer)
- Recognition by peers



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### Our Members

- Immediate benefits are understood
- Don't have to "sell" anything
- Personal experiences are better understood
- Previous knowledge on fire/EMS and farming



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### Other Affiliations

- Church (usually strong in small communities)
- Service organizations – Lions, Elks, Eagles, Rotary, Jaycees (many also looking for projects)
- Civic events – picnics, membership drives, fundraisers



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### Our Established Contacts...Good and Bad



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### Partnering with Public Health Departments and Community Events

- Participate in BBQs with farmers and fire/EMS
- Provide other health services
  - Blood pressure screenings
  - Vaccinations
  - Etc.



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### Partner with Insurance Companies

- Sponsor events to connect fire/EMS and farmers



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## Twilight Meetings

- Dairy farm hosts with tours, food, programming
- Great opportunity to advertise your department, other activities you do
- Trainers discuss advantages of RF-DASH
  - Reducing damage on farm in case of fire
  - Keeping responders safe
  - Reducing injury, injury severity on farm
  - Knowing what to do in an emergency while you wait
- Insurance companies may sponsor




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## Benefits for Both!

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| <p><b>Fire Department</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarization with access problems</li> <li>• Power and speed of farm equipment</li> <li>• Hazards present –that we rarely see</li> </ul> | <p><b>Farm Family</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size and set up needs for rescue equipment</li> <li>• Limitations of rescue tools</li> <li>• Hazards present – that are always there</li> </ul> |
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*How can we help each other?*



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## Questions?

Connect with us!  
 1-800-662-6900  
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