Center for Dairy Farm Safety

Purpose Statement:

The information provided in the following document is structured to assist you, the Wisconsin Dairy Farmer, as you develop or modify your own farm’s safety procedures.

It is our goal at the Center for Dairy Farm Safety to be a resource for you to use as you continue to create a safe place of employment for your employees and develop or improve your farm’s safety programming.

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The Center for Dairy Farm Safety

The Center for Dairy Farm Safety (CDFS) was created with funding from a Susan Harwood Grant though OSHA in October of 2011. This project is a collaboration between the University of Wisconsin River Falls and University Wisconsin Extension. The focus of this project is to develop and maintain resources for dairy farmers in Wisconsin to learn about the current OSHA Dairy Local Emphasis Program (LEP) that was implemented as of November 1, 2011. The Dairy LEP was introduced after there were several non-family farm fatalities in the state. We have developed an eight-module training program which will be presented in two five hour training sessions to dairy producers. The target audience for this program is any dairy farmer that employees over 10 non family employees, or farms over 200 head of cattle.

A dairy farm manager or owner must fulfill many different roles in the dairy operation. The role of safety manager has been brought to the attention of many farmers through the introduction of the Dairy LEP. Our goal at the CDFS is to provide materials and guidance for farmers to learn how to meet the requirements of the LEP, ensure that all safety training is completed correctly and create and maintain other documentation to meet the needs of an OSHA compliance officer. The most important goal at the CFDS is to help farmers create a working environment that keeps employees safe.

1. Manure storage facilities and collection structures
2. Dairy bull and cow behavior / worker positioning
3. Electrical systems
4. Skidsteer operations
5. Tractor operation
6. Guarding of power take-offs
7. Guarding of other power transmission and functional components
8. Hazardous energy control while performing servicing and maintenance on equipment
9. Hazard communication
10. Confined spaces
11. Horizontal bunker silos
12. Noise

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