

Family Safety Intervention for Farms and Ranches

SETTING UP PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR FAMILY INTERVENTION:

- Evaluate and survey property or premises for safety concerns for family members: How can I keep my kids safe? Where are the possible hazard areas? Written, pictures if needed.
- Create markers or physical identifiers for those places of concern: signs and posters, painted posts, etc.
- Identify specific issues of concern: overhead power lines, ditches, equipment, corrals, pens, work areas, ponds, playing on equipment, how to enter a work area, how to approach workers and equipment when in use, etc.
- Make any changes to premises as needed to protect family members: locks, gates, zones, fences, bars, covers, etc.
- Take time to tour the farm/ranch every 6 months with the entire family: take into account all hazards.
- Family discussion about go or no-go zones on premises.
- Family safety meeting every time there is a major change in business activity: planting time, haying, harvest time, branding, moving livestock, putting out irrigation pipe, etc.
- Set up procedures for family members being around equipment: how close to get, staying away from the back of equipment, riding, helping, etc.
- Set up procedures for communications when family members are in the work areas: authority, sign language, cell phone use, electronics use, etc.
- Train family members on the “How To Do” when in the work areas: don’t take for granted that everyone automatically knows what you do.
- Talk about near misses, when they happen, so everyone can learn
- Continually survey your work area for things that could create safety hazards for family members: take action immediately to make changes, discuss with family at earliest time possible.

— TAKE CARE OF YOUR FAMILY —

