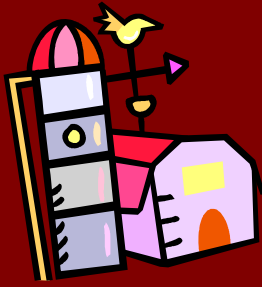


# Planning a Farm Safety



# DAY CAMP





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The Alberta Farm Safety Program expresses gratitude to Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, PO Box 458, Earlham, IA 50072, for granting permission to reproduce and distribute this document. The Alberta Farm Safety Program has made some minor changes to make this guide specific to Alberta.

The information in this manual is intended for general information and education purposes. It should not be relied upon as medical or legal advice. If legal, medical or other expert assistance is required, the services of the appropriate professional should be sought.

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# Keeping Rural Kids Safe and Healthy!

So you've decided to organize a farm safety day camp. **Congratulations!** You have taken a leadership role in your community to ensure the safety and health of our rural children. Your efforts will make a big difference in your community!

You might be wondering where to start and how much work is involved. You likely have other questions too:

- ◆ Where do I start?
- ◆ Exactly what am I getting into by agreeing to be a coordinator, volunteer or presenter?
- ◆ How much will a farm safety day camp cost?
- ◆ Where do I find presenters?
- ◆ Where should I hold the day camp?
- ◆ Where do I find resources for the day camp?
- ◆ What guidelines and instructions are needed to ensure that instructors give correct farm safety messages?
- ◆ What is a coordinator responsible for?
- ◆ When should I hold the day camp?
- ◆ What age should attend?
- ◆ What should be given to the children to take home?

This guide has been put together to help you answer these questions. It is based on the experiences of many other day camps organized by people just like you in communities all across Alberta. You can be sure these methods are tried and true!



# Background



A farm safety day camp is a great way to teach children how to recognize farm hazards and how to prevent injuries. The fun format of a day camp allows children to enjoy the atmosphere of a camp-like setting while learning about safety and health on the farm.



Given the nature of work done on the farm and the dual role of farms as homes and workplaces, **youth are continually exposed to many hazards unique to the farm environment** such as farm machinery (tractors, augers, PTOs, etc.), farm animals (especially horses and cattle) and rural health risks.

Each year on **Alberta** farms, approximately 18–20 fatalities occur, including children, and many others are hospitalized due to injuries.



According to the *Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program (CAISP)*, **an average of 12 children under the age of 10 are killed and 110 are hospitalized each year across Canada** due to injuries sustained on the farm work site. Almost all fatalities involved children of farm owner-operators. The three main causes of fatalities in children under age 10 are: being run over as a bystander, falling off a vehicle and then being run over and drowning.

