



# Farm Security and Emergency Response Planning

Developed by Michael Parrish, ANR Agent,  
Dinwiddie County Extension, Virginia  
Cooperative Extension, Dinwiddie, VA

10/8/09



# Points for Discussion

- **Potential Farm Emergencies**
- **Insurance Coverage**
- **Impacts of a Farm Emergency**
- **Emergency Plan**
- **Information for Emergency Responders**
- **Most Common Farm Fires**
- **Pesticides and Fire**
- **Precautions and Cleanup**

# Potential Farm Emergencies

- Farm Equipment Accidents
- Environment Contamination
- Fire and Explosions
- Chemical Spills
- Theft and Acts of a Disgruntled Employee
- Acts of Terrorism
- Farm Quarantine



# Know the Coverage and Requirements of Your Insurance Policy

- **Does it Cover:**
  - Fires/Explosions- types? (Let it Burn Policy)
  - Spills – On or Off your Property
  - Environment Damage and Cleanup
  - Act of Terrorism
  - Vandalism
  - Equipment Accident
  - Employees

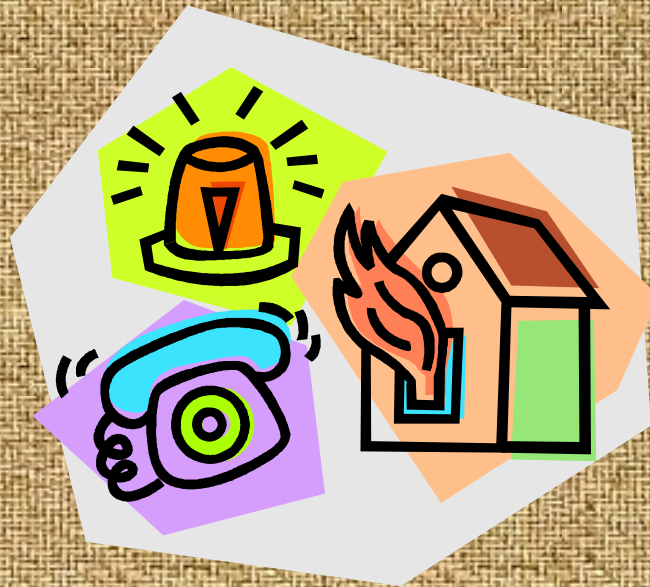


# Impacts of a Fire or Accident on the Farm

- **Potential loss of life or medical recovery time**
- **Potential loss of items and facilities**
- **Interruption of critical production operations**
- **Replacement costs and time**
- **Environment impact, fines and cleanup**
- **Cost of unforeseen liabilities!!**
- **Interruption of cash flow**

# Why plan for an emergency response?

- ❖ Protects lives, community, property and environment
- ❖ How you respond and plan, makes all the difference!!!
- ❖ A good plan will reduce accidents, stress, costs and lost time



# The Most Often Requested Information Emergency Responders Need to Know

- **Proper Address – easy to read and find**
  - **Easy Access – hidden obstacles, trees, gates & wells**
- **Location of Hidden Dangers- pesticides, electricity, accelerants, explosive materials and containers**
- **High Value or Critical Areas**
- **Accessible Water Supply**
- **Potential Environmental Threats**
- **Contact Information and Employee List**



# Emergency Information

This information is more vital if no one is home

- Needs to be easy to find and well marked
- Items to Include:
  - Farm map with building locations
  - Building Inventory List – pesticides and other flammables, major equipment and livestock
  - Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
  - Contact List and Numbers
  - Water Sources
  - Environmental Threats
  - Major Electrical Panels and Sources





# Develop a Plan

- Designate an emergency coordinator
- Maintain a list of emergency response agencies

**PESTICIDE EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

For any type of an emergency involving a pesticide, immediately contact the following emergency information centers for assistance.  
Current as of March 2001

**Human Pesticide Poisoning**

**POISON CONTROL**  
From anywhere in the United States, call  
**1 - 8 0 0 - 2 2 2 - 1 2 2 2**

**Special Pesticide Emergencies**

<b>Animal Poisoning</b>	<b>Pesticide Fire</b>	<b>Traffic Accident</b>	<b>Environmental Pollution</b>	<b>Pesticide Disposal Information</b>
Your veterinarian	Local fire department	Local police department or sheriff's department	District Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Office Phone No.	Michigan Clean Sweep, Michigan Department of Agriculture, Environmental Stewardship Division. Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. <b>(517) 335-6529</b>
Phone No. or Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory (Toxicology) Michigan State University <b>(517) 355-0281</b>	Phone No. and Fire Marshal Division, Michigan State Police M - F: 8 - 12, 1 - 5 <b>(517) 322-1924</b>  * Telephone Number Operated 24 Hours	Phone No. and Operations Division, Michigan State Police <b>*(517) 336-6605</b>	Phone No. and MDEQ Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) <b>*1-800-292-4706</b> also <b>*1-800-405-0101</b> Michigan Department of Agriculture Spill Response	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>National Pesticide Telecommunications Network</b></p> <p>Provides a division on recognizing and managing pesticide poisoning, toxicology, general pesticide information and emergency response assistance. Funded by EPA, based at Oregon State University 7 days a week, excluding holidays 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time Zone <b>1-800-858-7378</b> <b>FAX: 1-541-737-0761</b></p> </div>

Revised by Carolyn J. Randall, Pesticide Education Program, Michigan State University Extension

- People & agencies to be notified
- Local emergency planning committee
- Police and fire units
- Paramedics and hospitals
- Chemical manufacturers
- Containment and hazardous waste cleanup
- Attorney

# Information to be included in an emergency notification call

Keep them with the phone number list

Name of reporting person:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date and location of incident:

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of incident:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of chemical: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of chemical: \_\_\_\_\_

Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

Extent of injuries: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Potential effects on environment and community: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Provide an Area Map Too!



Fire, police, paramedics can't waste  
time trying to find your farm!

# Keep an Inventory

- **Product names, volumes, and locations**
- **Keep copies of labels, MSDS, protective equipment**
- **Keep a set of documents away from storage area**
- **Emergency equipment:**
  - **tools for building dikes, trenching, pumping, vacuuming**
  - **containment and cleanup materials**
  - **fire extinguishers, personal protective equipment**

# A Typical Farm Fire

- Barns and farm buildings provide a **plentiful fuel and air supply for fires to start and grow**: the buildings themselves are constructed of wood and house solid fuels such as hay, straw and grain. Many older farm buildings have exposed electrical wiring.



# FIRES ON THE FARM

- **A barn fire is a farmer's worst nightmare and often, it brings significant emotional and economic damage to a farming community.**
- **Government data indicates that dollar losses on farm properties affected by fire ranged from \$20 million in 2002 to \$29 million in 2004.**

# Pesticide Fires

## Know the Potential Dangers of Mixing Fire and Pesticides

- **Flammable Products**
  - Liquids, Solids and Gases
- **Storage Locations and Products Stored**
  - Accelerants, Electrical Components, Petroleum Products and Compressed Gases
- **Transportation and Storage Containers**
- **Delivery Systems** – sprayer types, compressed containers
- **Note: Pesticides do not completely disintegrate during a normal structure fire**

# If there is a chemical fire:

1. **Evacuate** the area!
2. **Call 911**, and tell what chemicals are involved
3. Keep people away; establish a perimeter and protect downwind
4. **Have MSDS notebook ready!**



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## Grandview fire didn't contaminate surrounding area

*This story was published Thursday, March 31st, 2005*

By Jeff St. John, Herald staff writer

The fire that destroyed the Wilbur-Ellis Co. farm chemical warehouse in Grandview in late January did not contaminate the surrounding area with pesticides or other dangerous chemicals.

That finding is based on air samples taken by the state during the first two days of the fire and on surface, ground and water tests taken afterward.



# Pesticide Fires

## *How to Avoid a Pesticide Fire*

- **Assess the flammability and storage hazards of pesticide products**
- **Look on the label for “Do not use or store near heat or open flame”**
- **Fires usually involve oils or petroleum solvents**
- **Do not store flammables or pesticides next to or in a building with major equipment or livestock**



# *How to Avoid a Pesticide Fire*

- **Store combustibles away from heat sources**
- **Do not store containers in sunlight, especially glass!**
- **Install fire alarms**
- **Keep foam-type fire extinguishers approved for chemical fires available**



# Pesticide Fires

## *Potential Problems*

- Pesticides may give **off highly toxic vapors or smoke** that may harm firefighters, nearby residents, animals, or plants
- **Residues** may be present in debris and soil
- **Runoff** from the fire site may be highly toxic



# How to Prevent Fires on the Farm

- **START WITH A PLAN:** It is a good idea to contact your local fire department to find out how to effectively prevent fire on your farm.
  - Discuss your final plan with the local fire department and get their input.
- **Have a NO SMOKING POLICY:** There should be no smoking allowed in or near any farm buildings at anytime.
- **PRACTICE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING:** Keep farms clean and organized, participate in the Pesticide Container Recycling and Pesticide Disposal Programs.

# Take Precautions to Reduce Fire Hazards!

- **Put storage facility far from people, animals**
- **Always keep storage locked!**
- **Clearly post warning and No Smoking Signs**



# If the fire is small...

- Contain with fog, foam, or dry powder
  - ❖ If only water is available:
    - ❖ use as fine spray or fog, don't over-wet
    - ❖ **Caution:** water jets can break bags, glass and cause products to run off
    - ❖ Contain the water and spilled chemicals

# After a Pesticide Fire...

- Clean or dispose of all clothing
- Everyone involved should follow a decontamination procedure
- Do not clean up or salvage until area has cooled



# Questions

