

Emergency procedures

and safety information for agritourism and related outdoor events

Introduction Workbook with Scenarios

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AGRITOURISMREADY

Agritourism Emergency Preparedness



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Agritourism Ready

A One Stop Shop for preparing your emergency management plan

Ohio State University Extension is excited to bring this curriculum to farm families in Ohio and across the nation. This project is the result of two grant projects, focusing on the unmet need for emergency preparedness materials within the agritourism industry in Ohio.

The curriculum focus is seven units, comprised of chapters specific to Risk Management and addressing potential emergencies. Chapters within each until strive to educate the farm management team to develop their plan, including the details needed to print a detailed emergency preparedness plan for use in their business. Part of this plan will be a posted flip-chart for hands-on access to employees and others who will assist with the response to and mitigation of the emergency.

This optimized website was developed for use by the management team in preparing the plan and to educate employees on how to deal with specific emergencies. It can also be used by educators to teach this curriculum. For a primer, you can watch this webinar recording:

Disclaimer: The information provided in this bulletin is for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. You should contact your attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem. Use of and access to this bulletin does not create an attorney-client relationship. The scenarios shared in this bulletin are derived from case studies of actual farms, and not from legal opinions.

Safety Items
for my farm

Potential Emergencies
at my farm

Risk Management Method Matrix		
	Low Severity	High Severity
Low Frequency	Reduce or Accept	Reduce or Accept
High Frequency	Reduce or Transfer	Reduce, Transfer or Avoid



Potential Support Team Members for my farm

Scenario Fires

Four employees were in a back work room when a fire broke out in the main part of the building. The primary exit of the work room would lead the workers directly into the smoke filled area of the main barn. The workers were not trapped because there was a large garage door they could use to exit the building. However, in their panic to open it, they realized the chain roller was not working properly and they could not get the garage door to roll up. They continued to try, with workers on the outside also trying to lift the door as the inside workers pulled on the rusty chain. They were eventually freed from the room. The end result was an OSHA citation for not having adequate emergency exits at the facility. The owner of the building assumed that garage doors served as exits, however the OSHA codes require emergency doors to be “hinged doors”.

- What are the OSHA requirements for an approved exit door?

- Would fire extinguishers be helpful in this situation?

Scenario Equipment Failure

A wheel breaks off a wagon during a hayride at the farm. The ride is loaded down with 50 guests and one employee. The tractor driver notices this quickly and stops the ride. The employee on the wagon calls the contact person back at the farm. A replacement wagon shows up within 10 minutes. A plank is placed from one wagon to another and all customers are safely transported back to the farm. All guests on the ride receive a voucher to spend at the farm.

- Was the incident handled appropriately?
- What would you do differently?
- What could be implications of this incident?
- Should you notify your insurance agent about this incident?



Scenario Lost Power

On June 29th, a wedding was about to take place at the scenic Blue Waters Farm. Unfortunately, at 2pm a derecho straight wind storm blew through and took out the power in the entire tri-county area. Currently there is no estimated time of when the power will be restored. The passing storm caused the temperature to rise to 85 degrees with humidity at 90 percent. The wedding is supposed to start at 6:30pm in the barn and currently there is a tree across the driveway, the caterer doesn't know where to setup, and the generator is too loud that it drowns out the ambience of the wedding.

- What precautions should the owner take before the wedding begins?

- What food safety concerns are there?

- What are the ventilation concerns?

- What other utilities go out when the electric goes out?

Scenario Traffic Accident

It's a busy fall day and the skies are clear. The traffic is moving freely in and out of your parking lot. One of your customers pulls out in front of oncoming traffic and is rear ended by a speeding motorist. Your staff sees the accident and calls 9-1-1. Your other customers also see the accident and call 9-1-1. Due to the abundance of calls, the emergency dispatcher sends several squads. After arriving at scene, the local fire chief closes the road in front of the farm and calls in Life Flight. Customers that are wanting to get to your location have to park at a local gas station. They start walking down the road toward your farm.

- What options does the business owner have to assist customers getting to the farm?
- What obligation does the farm owner have to protect?
- Farm workers
- Off property customers

Scenario Lost Person

A frantic customer comes to you stating that her mother has been lost and she's afraid that her mother may have left the farm with someone or is in immediate danger. You ask the person to give you details of what their mother was wearing, typing the information into a text message on your phone. You send quick group text to employees present that day at the farm. One texts back quickly to say the lady is up petting the goats. You tell the lady and she is on her way.

- Was this incident handled correctly? What would you have done differently?

- What major correction would you have done differently in this situation?

Scenario Aggressive Guests

Conduct a role play using these scenarios.

1. A guest is an older farmer. He is one of 50 people on the hayride. He refuses to sit down because, ‘I’ve been doing this for over 50 years and I’m saving space because you people don’t have enough room on these wagons.’ How well can owners and/or employees deal with him?
2. A parent with two autistic children has shown up to join a school tour, but refuses to pay for herself, her husband or the two children. She says, “We’re just here for the twins to see animals because they cannot stand still during a tour and they can’t stand the crowds on the weekends around here.”