



# Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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## **Maryland Farm Bureau Encourages Agriculture Safety**

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Davidsonville, MD (June 2, 2015) – National Safety Month is celebrated each June, according to the National Safety Council, to focus attention on reducing the leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities. To recognize National Safety Month, Maryland Farm Bureau is encouraging our farmers to consider and evaluate how they keep themselves, others and their farm and livestock safe.

Maryland farmers take many precautions and efforts to farm safely every day. They train to use equipment, have backup plans in case things go wrong and follow step-by-step instructions when operating machinery. But farmers don't only have to look out for themselves when they're working. Many operations have multiple people visit the farm for production, shipment and tourism. By implementing bio-security practices and securing dangerous equipment, farmers can help ensure the safety of others on their farm. They are also cautious when driving farm vehicles on state and county roads, using proper blinkers and lights, for the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

It is crucial for Maryland farmers to keep their farm buildings, equipment and products safe so they can provide their community with food, fuel and fiber. Many farmers hire a licensed engineer to design the structure of their buildings to withstand weather, loading and age. It is also recommended that farmers, specifically poultry farmers, use fire divisions in their buildings to limit the concentration of value and reduce the severity of loss should a fire occur.

Livestock are critical to many farming operations and cared for by their farmers. Putting up secure fencing is a significant way farmers help to keep their animals safe from roads, bodies of water and wild animals. Farmers also carefully consider what they feed their livestock and monitor their diet to ensure safe, healthy animals.

Although farmers do everything they can to keep themselves, others and their farm and livestock safe, accidents happen and damage/loss occurs. One way to make sure you and your farm are protected is with a Farm plan through the number one farm insurer in the country, Nationwide Insurance. As a member of Maryland Farm Bureau, you can receive discounts on Nationwide Insurance plans for Auto, Home, Condominium, Farm, Long Term Care, Boat, Power Sports, Travel, Pet and RV. This company has been insuring agriculture since 1909 and maintains an extensive database of losses, including causes when they are identifiable.

Join us, along with the National Safety Council and thousands of organizations across the country, as we work to raise awareness of what it takes to stay safe.

Learn more about National Safety Month by visiting <http://www.nsc.org/act/events/Pages/national-safety-month.aspx>. Join Maryland Farm Bureau by calling 410-922-3426 or visiting [www.mdfarmbureau.com](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com). Contact your local Nationwide Insurance agent to learn more about insuring your farm.