



Special Feature

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### **Celebrate Farm Safety week**

**(COLUMBUS, Neb.)** – National Farm Safety and Health Week is the third week in September every year. In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt recognized the hazards of farming and set aside this week to bring attention to the health risks of those working in agriculture. The dates for this year are Sept. 18-24.

According to the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH), “The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers.”

The UMASH website provides various safety tips and informational resources for public access and education. The AgriSafe Network is also hosting free daily webinars linked on the UMASH home page. Daily topics included are as follows:

- Monday, Sept. 19 – Tractor safety and rural roadway safety.
- Tuesday, Sept. 20 – Overall farmer health.
- Wednesday, Sept. 21 – Safety and health for youth in agriculture.
- Thursday, Sept. 22 – Confined spaces.
- Friday, Sept. 23 – Safety and health for women in agriculture.

“I am excited to see the topic ‘Safety & Health for Women in Agriculture’ on Friday,” said Teresa Duffek, registered nurse with Occupational Health Services. “I have been involved in agriculture my entire life. I help my husband plant soybeans during planting season, and during harvest season, I run the combine.”

For more information on how Columbus Community Hospital’s Occupational Health Services team helps farmers in the summer and year-round, visit [columbushosp.org](http://columbushosp.org).

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