

Safety Reminders for the Harvest Season

The fall harvest is upon us once again here on the Island and the PEI Federation of Agriculture would like to pass on a few safety reminders to help everyone stay safe this harvest season.

Farm accidents are more prevalent this time of year as farmers and their employees are working around the clock in effort to get their crops harvested. Many accidents occur as a result of carelessness due to inadequate rest periods and failure to follow proper safety precautions. Farmers must remember that it is essential to take breaks throughout the day, eat regularly, keep hydrated, and allow sufficient time for sleep each night to ensure you stay alert on the job and avoid fatigue.

Farm tractors and machinery will be seen more frequently on Island roads and highways over the next few months and it is up to everyone to share the roadways accordingly keeping safety in mind. Farmers should have their tractors and trailers equipped with slow moving vehicle signs as well as making sure their loads are properly secured. Be sure to check that tail and brake lights are in working order, and always ensure that rear facing white lights are turned off when travelling on roads to avoid accidents with motorists. For extra wide equipment or equipment that is moving in and out of poorly visible areas, use an escort vehicle to assist you in making sure motorists are aware of your presence.

For more information on how you can stay safe this harvest season or for information on safety training contact the PEIFA office 368-7289 or by email to Charlottec@peifa.ca or visit the PEIFA website www.peifa.ca.

