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Helping Alberta producers navigate contractor safety

As farms and ranches continue to evolve, many operations are increasingly relying on contractors for specialized work ranging from construction and electrical services to custom field work and equipment maintenance.

While contractors can bring valuable expertise to a farm operation, they can also introduce new safety risks and responsibilities that producers may not always fully understand (including the OHS legislation applying to family farms).

To help address this need, AgSafe Alberta is preparing to launch a new *Managing Contractors on Alberta Farms: A Practical Guide*, along with a companion online course to test your knowledge that is designed specifically for agricultural producers. The resource will be launched this September and will provide practical, agriculture-focused guidance on working safely and effectively with contractors.

The guide will help producers understand their roles and responsibilities when hiring contractors, identify potential safety considerations before work begins, establish clear communication expectations, and create safer working environments for everyone on the farm.

This new resource reflects AgSafe Alberta's ongoing commitment to providing producers with tools that are relevant, easy to use, and grounded in real-world farming conditions. Our goal is not to add paperwork or complexity, but rather to help producers understand risks, prevent incidents, and protect the people who work on their operations.



AgSafe Alberta has continued to build practical resources that support safety culture development across Alberta agriculture. One example is the FARMERS CARE program, a free producer-focused initiative that helps farms identify hazards, improve communication, strengthen inspections, and prepare for emergencies.

The program provides a step-by-step approach to integrating safety into everyday farm operations and has become a valuable resource for producers across the province.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to us at 1-833-9-AGSAFE (924-7233) we are happy to answer your questions about managing safety on your farm.

AgSafe Alberta also has advisors who can come out to your farm for free to help get you started or conduct a gap assessment and point you in the right direction. You can also check us out at events this fall to pick up some of these resources. Safety remains a priority for Alberta producers who understand that protecting people is essential to the long-term success and sustainability of their businesses.

As AgSafe Alberta looks ahead, the focus remains on creating practical solutions that help producers address real challenges. Whether through contractor management resources, FARMERS CARE, online training, or new educational tools, the goal is the same: helping Alberta farms and ranches become safer places to live, work, and grow up on. 