



Why we support the Agricultural Safety & Health Council of America (ASHCA)

At WCF Insurance we are committed to worker safety and health. We joined ASHCA to work with other organizations and individuals in reducing the high number of serious injuries and fatalities that occur every year in agriculture. Farm accidents can have lifelong impacts on workers, families, and their communities. While growing up and working in a farming community, I have experienced the impact of farm accidents firsthand. Through being involved with ASHCA, I have been able to network with other safety professionals and learn best industry safety practices as we assist our agriculture customers in making the workplace safer.

Flint T. Belk, CIH, CSP

Director, Safety and Health

WCF Insurance

A Letter from our Board Chair

As we head into the end of the summer, it is safe to say that the past 5 months have been quite unique for each of us in many different ways. This year is definitely one for the record books in terms of challenges, level of effort and degree of accomplishments on all fronts. Throughout the spring and summer, ASHCA has been working to deliver resources to our members that assist them in both dealing with the coronavirus pandemic and other safety and health related issues that are important to daily operations.

training for the remainder of 2020.

This includes Board meetings and training sessions. As a result, we will not be having an in person AgSHARP® meeting in Monterey, Calif. as was originally planned. Based on the detailed interaction between attendees and instructors, we've determined that it will be very difficult to effectively present the content of the course virtually. In addition, we had to cancel the delivery of a livestock

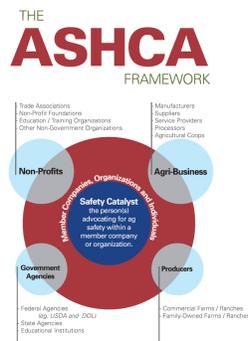


Special thanks to the time and effort put into these efforts from both our staff and Board members. In addition, we appreciate the time and effort that put into the Webinars, that we offered and are posted on the ASHCA Web page, from each of the speakers. It was nice to hear all of the positive feedback that we received from the attendees on the value of the topics and the information that was delivered.

On that note, after detailed discussion, the ASHCA Board has decided not to offer any face to face

focused AgSHARP® that we were planning to deliver in Lincoln, Neb. in July.

I hope you and your families continue to stay healthy and safe. When this is all behind us, I know that each of us will look back with pride at all we accomplished. Thank you for your commitment to agricultural safety and health and for promoting safety to your colleagues and employees.



COVID 19 -- Control Measures

by Joel H. Sherman
VP Safety & Regulatory Affairs
Grimmway Farms



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars now:

International Conference
Ragusa SHWA 2020
Ragusa, Italy
September 16 - 19

National Farm Safety & Health
Week 2020
September 20-26, 2020

2020 Midwest Rural
Agricultural Safety & Health
Conference
Independence, IA
November 17-18, 2020

ASHCA Agricultural Safety
Summit
Las Vegas, NV
March 22 - 24, 2021

Back in March of 2020, when the Coronavirus first made an appearance in the U.S., most of us were pretty naïve regarding effective methods for controlling the risk in the workplace. It seemed to boil down to a few universal steps: 1. Wash your hands. 2. Practice “sneeze or cough” etiquette. 3. Don’t shake hands or hug. 4. Practice “social distancing” (which was a relatively new term to most of us). 5. Stay home if you are sick. The rules seemed basic and simple, and probably led many of us to wrongly assume that control would be equally easy and simple.

But by the first of April, it had become readily apparent that controlling the entry of a virus into the workplace was going to be a far more difficult proposition. To control the virus, one needed to control the vector, and that required minimizing person-to-person contact in every way possible because the vector was humanity itself. This called for drastic action leading to nationwide “lockdowns” designed to keep people from interacting and thus spreading the virus. People were told to stay home unless they were an “essential worker.”

[Click here to read Joel's entire article!](#)



**Join us on September 17th at 2:00 EST
for the presentation of ASHCA
Achievement Awards & Lightning Talks
Part 3 of 3**

Since we were unable to hold our Safety Summit this past March in Las Vegas, we've decided to release the presentations on line. We will release them all in a series of three webinars. The following will be included at our September 17th event:

Achievement Awards:

Charlotte Halverson, AgriSafe – Healthcare Provider
Rick Naerebout, Idaho Dairy Assoc. – Research to Practice
Collaboration

Lightning Talks:

James Carrabba, Northeast NIOSH Ag Center, Cooperstown, NY –
“*NY Nudging Dairy Safety: Re-engineering Best Safety Practices*”

Melissa Ploeckelman – National Farm Medicine Center – “*Using
Storytelling to Disseminate Ag Safety and Health Messages*”

Suraj Adhikari – U of Nebraska, Central States NIOSH Ag Center –
“*Describing the Burden of Injuries in the Cattle Feeding Industry*”

Rebekah Estes – U of Iowa, Great Plains NIOSH Ag Center –
“*Compliance with Recommended Safety Standards re: High Risk
Farm Equipment*”

Ellen Duysen - U Nebraska, Central States NIOSH Ag Center –
“*From Mold to Mental Health – Creation of an Ag Flood Disaster
Recovery Tool*”

Click the button below to register for the webinar.

[Register Here](#)

**Did you miss the presentation of ASHCA Achievement
Awards & Lightning Talks -- Part 1 and Part 2? [Click
here](#) to view it from our ASHCA Webinar Channel.**



SAY Clearinghouse

The SAY Project has developed a National Clearinghouse that shows the alignment of agricultural safety and health curriculum and educational resources to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Standards used by agricultural educators.

[Click here](#) to review their resources.



Free Webinar!

The Impact of Climate-Related Hazards on Mental Health

Thursday, Sept. 17th
Noon-1:00 pm CT

[Click here](#) for registration details.

	September 21-25, 2020	Save the Date: National Farm Safety and Health Week Free Webinars	21	Child Safety and Rural Roadway Safety	
			22	Overall Farmer Health	
			23	Health and Safety for Women in Agriculture	
			24	Emergency Preparedness in Agriculture	
			25	Safety and Health for Women in Agriculture	



International Journal of *Environmental Research and Public Health*

There will be a special issue devoted to **Occupational Safety and Health for Sustainable Agricultural and Forestry Systems in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (Open Access Journal)***.

This issue will be guest edited by Dr. Federica Caffaro, Dr. Eugenio Cavallo, and Prof. Dr. Margherita Micheletti Cremasco.

[You can find the full description of the special issue and author instructions at the following link:](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/osh_agricultural_forestry#info)
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/osh_agricultural_forestry#info.](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/osh_agricultural_forestry#info)

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