

Training Module: First on the Scene

Objective: To enhance crisis intervention skills.

Trainers Note: The awareness of farm hazards is greater than the awareness of rescue or first aid procedures. Intervention should never endanger the rescuer, bystanders or put the victim in graver danger. Post emergency telephone numbers near all phones. A local volunteer fire department or emergency rescue squad member would be an ideal trainer.

Background

Unlike automobile accidents farm rescues are more difficult due to the ruggedness of the farm equipment and poor accessibility to the scene. Standard rescue equipment, such as hydraulic rescue tools and metal-cutting saws, easily removes automobile pieces but may not work on more solidly built agricultural machinery.

When first on the scene:

- **Designate a leader**-A worker who has had first aid training or the senior worker should assume leadership. This person should direct the rescue until the emergency squad arrives and should update the squad on treatment administered.
- **Assign a specific person to call for help**-The ambulance dispatcher will need to know location and condition of field (muddy, steep, rough), type of equipment involved in the accident, number of victims and the extent of their injuries.
- **Assess the rescue situation**-Evaluate the situation and develop an escape plan. Stabilize equipment to minimize the chance of collapse or further injury. Knows the limitations of the helpers and equipment.
- **Establish a hazard zone**-This allows the rescuers room to work at freeing the victim. Only the rescuers should be in the area. This area may contain hazards such as fire, toxic or flammable gases and structural damage.
- **Provide emergency first aid**-Restore breathing and circulation if necessary. If bleeding, apply pressure to related pressure points. Administer any additional first aid treatment.
- **Stay calm**- Calm the victim by keeping one rescuer near the victims at all times.
- **If amputation occurs**- Locate the appendage and wrap it in a moist towel. Keep it on ice, but do not let it freeze. If the appendage is in pieces, send each piece to the hospital as it is found.

Review The Following Points

- Appoint a worker to lead until the emergency squad arrives.
- Call for emergency help as quickly as possible.
- Assess the situation and start first aid.
- Establish a hazard zone.
- Locate any appendage and transfer to the care unit.

True or False Answer Key

1. T, 2. T, 3. T, 4. T, 5. T

First on the Scene Quiz

True or False

Name _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Someone should take the leadership of the rescue activity as soon as possible. | T | F |
| 2. If additional help is needed, do not hesitate to call. | T | F |
| 3. After locating a missing appendage wrap it in a moist towel and place it on ice. | T | F |
| 4. Plan the rescue and then take action. | T | F |
| 5. One rescuer should remain with the victim at all times. | T | F |