

Grain Bin Safety and Rescue Training to be held in Mayville, NY



National Education Center for Agricultural Safety Grain Bin Rescue Training Equipment

Did you know these Startling Facts: Injuries & Fatalities from grain bins * Sources: Summary of U.S. Agricultural Confined Space-Related Injuries and Fatalities; Purdue University

- In 2022, at least 42 grain entrapments were reported, the highest number of entrapments in a decade (a 44.8% increase from 2021). There were 15 fatalities.
- In four seconds, an adult can sink knee-deep in flowing grain and be rendered unable to free themselves without assistance. In just 20 seconds, an adult can be fully engulfed.
- Suffocation from engulfment or oxygen-deficient atmospheres is the leading cause of death in grain accidents.
- More than 300 grain entrapments have been recorded in the past decade. It is estimated an additional 30% of cases go unreported.

Since 2014, Nationwide and partners have awarded 332 grain rescue tubes to first responders across 32 states – eclipsing over \$1 million in resources provided. At least ten successful rescues have utilized these resources, including the recent rescues in Arkansas and Indiana. Nationwide collaborates each year with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) to deliver the rescue equipment and provide safety training.

The Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services and Chautauqua County Farm Bureau cooperatively applied for and have recently been selected to receive specialized rescue training and equipment needed to respond to a grain entrapment incident in Chautauqua County and nearby areas. The new equipment will be awarded and demonstrated at this safety and rescue program.

Farm owners and their families, farm employees, grain handlers, fire department personnel, and first responders are welcome to participate in a grain bin rescue training, which will also include safety tips working with grain bins. This educational program will be held on Thursday, August 22nd beginning at 6:00 pm at the Chautauqua County Emergency Office, 2 Academy Street, Mayville, NY. Anyone interested in learning more to prevent and help save lives in grain entrapment accidents is welcome to attend. We do request participants to be at least 16 years of age, due to liability considerations.

Jim Joy, Grape Grower and Chautauqua County Farm Bureau Board Member stated: "This grain bin rescue training and specialized equipment grant is the result of dedicated teamwork between the Chautauqua County Special Rescue Team and Chautauqua County Farm Bureau. These combined efforts now provide our county special rescue team members the ability to respond with confidence and knowledge to any grain bin rescue operation in Chautauqua County and surrounding areas."

If you have any questions regarding this training, please contact Jim Joy at 716-467-4200.

The program instructor will be Brian Freese, B.A., NR-Paramedic, Fire Instructor 2, NECAS Safety and Rescue Instructor, from Peosta, Iowa. Thanks to local grain producers who will provide the grain and loading equipment for the demonstration. There is no charge to participate, and complimentary pizza and beverages will be provided to all participants by the Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services.

To help plan for meeting materials and food, please RSVP by August 20th, by contacting Lisa Kempisty, Extension Educator, at 716-664-9502 Ext 203 or by email: lj4@cornell.edu.



Photo credit: Nationwide Article "Grain Bin Safety Week 2024"