

## How Much Does it Cost to Hold a Safety Day?

The actual out-of-pocket costs for an individual Safety Day depend on the extent of activities planned and the in-kind donations that are available. Here is a list of items that you might need funds for. You may be able to get these items free of charge. If not, you will need funds to pay for them.

- Travel for the coordinator to attend a training session for each year they conduct a Safety Day (mileage or airfare; as well as any additional hotel and food that are not paid by the Foundation)
- Site for the event
- Food (usually one meal, beverages and snacks)
- Opening or closing speakers who charge a fee
- Printing and postage
- Items for take-home bags
- Supplies
- Audio-visual equipment, microphones, etc

Possible funding sources include donations from local businesses, organizations or individuals. In addition, some Safety Days charge a registration fee for each participant and use this money to cover any costs. Others ask for donations from local businesses.



## What Training is Required?

The lead coordinator is required to attend a training session each year that they conduct a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day®. Training sessions are held between September and February for Safety Days that will occur between the following March through December. The first two years a coordinator is in the program, they must attend a one and one-half day training session. Approximately 40 training sessions are held each year across the U.S. and Canada. The locations of these training sessions vary each year, so that as few coordinators as possible have to travel long distances.

After a coordinator has been with the program for two years and has attended two in-person training sessions, they have the option of alternating between a web-based training and an in-person training. This means that they only have to travel to a training session every other year.

## How are Communities Selected and How do I Apply?

Individuals and organizations interested in conducting a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® for their community must complete and application each year that they participate in the program. Applications are due each July 15<sup>th</sup> for Safety Days that will be conducted the following calendar year. Progressive Agriculture Foundation staff members evaluate the applications and select the sites for the following year, based on funding available, community support, enthusiasm, experience and cost effectiveness for the number of participants. Returning communities are also evaluated on coordinator follow-through, quality of past Safety Day(s) and length of time with the program. Those approved to participate in the program are notified around the first of August each year. Applications are on our website: [www.progressiveag.org](http://www.progressiveag.org)

# Progressive Agriculture Safety Days®



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## What is a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day®?

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® are one-day events, run by local communities, that teach children safety lessons that can keep them and those around them safe at home or on a farm or ranch. Each year, the Progressive Agriculture Foundation supports more than 400 Safety Days across the U.S., Canada, U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa. These Safety Days reach more than 100,000 children and adults annually.



The program is designed to reach 8 to 13-year olds. However, there are separate materials that can be used to reach 4 to 7-year olds. Most Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® are planned for 100 to 200 participants. However, some that are well-planned and well-staffed have effectively reached 1,300 participants. Safety Days can be conducted for specific schools or school classes or they can be open to the entire community.

## What topics are covered at a Safety Day?

At Safety Day youth are divided into small groups where specific topics are covered. Lessons provided to coordinators cover the following topics:

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| -ATV's                | -Home Alone            |
| -Animal Safety        | -Knife Safety          |
| -Bicycle Safety       | -Lawn Equipment        |
| -Disability Awareness | -Meth Awareness        |
| -Electrical Safety    | -PTO Safety            |
| -Farm Equipment       | -Railroad Safety       |
| -Firearms             | -Sun Safety            |
| -First Aide           | -Tractor Safety        |
| -Food Safety          | -Underground Utilities |
| -Grain Safety         | -Water Safety          |

## What Does the Progressive Agriculture Foundation Provide?

Each year, the Progressive Agriculture Foundation provides a variety of support for communities selected to participate in the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® program. Examples of this support include but are not limited to the following:

- Training the Safety Day Coordinator to work within the local community to plan and implement a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day.
- Up-to-date manuals that provide coordinators all the information needed to conduct a Progressive Agriculture Safety Days®
- Providing a free T-shirt and take-home bag for each participant and volunteer.
- Publicizing the Safety Days in The Progressive Farmer magazine and to national media outlets.
- Providing sample media releases for the coordinator or publicity committee to personalize and send to local media.
- Securing liability and excess medical insurance for each Safety Day.
- Designing copy-ready posters and certificates (participation and appreciation) for each Safety Day.
- Providing a large "Welcome" banner for use at each Safety Day.
- Providing reminders, updates and other information electronically and/or by mail.
- Supporting Safety Day coordinators by a toll-free phone number and email.
- Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program staff members are always available to answer questions and help coordinators with problems specific to their Safety Day.



## How Much Work is Involved in Conducting a Safety Day?

Once a coordinator attends a one and one-half day, in-person training session conducted by Foundation staff, the work of running a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® falls on the local coordinator. It is the responsibility of the coordinator to pull together local volunteers to help plan, secure donations, set-up, clean-up, prepare lunch and serve as instructors, group leaders, safety officers and photographers. The training sessions provide the basic structure for a Safety Day, but the local committee must decide:

- Whether the Safety Day will be a community Safety Day (open to anyone interested) or a school Safety Day (open only to certain schools or grades)
- Location, date and hours
- Ages and numbers of participants, how many and which farm safety and health topics to teach
- What resources to send home
- Registration fee, if any
- Whether to include parents at the event, etc.

Coordinators are encouraged to involve all area groups or individuals who work in farming or farm-related activities to help with the Safety Day. After an initial successful Safety Day, volunteers are usually anxious to help with another Safety Day. Running a Safety Day is a big responsibility for the local coordinators. But when they hear the children talk about what they learned at the end of the day, it's all worth it.