

Planning for FarmSafe Alberta training

What is FarmSafe Alberta?

FarmSafe Alberta (FarmSafe) is a health and safety management system consisting of instructional time and a planning manual. The manual is divided into eight elements, each a valuable part of a personalized health and safety system for your farming operation. Whether working on your plan one-on-one, or in a classroom setting, a trained FarmSafe Advisor will help producers develop individual documents and help them apply it to their farm.

Instructional time is an essential part of FarmSafe, especially if producers are

Don't worry about the word 'occupational'. This is simply safety on the job and at the worksite.

relatively new to terminology and practices in occupational health and safety. This may be the first time a producer is officially

documenting their safety practices. Instruction from a FarmSafe Advisor can ensure the level of information is appropriate, realistic and achievable. Personalized instruction means producers are more likely to commit to a safety system they can deliver.

How is FarmSafe delivered?

Comprehensive Planning (working one-on-one with a FarmSafe Advisor)

- This option is ideal for producers who need a full safety plan completed relatively quickly but cannot commit to classroom time. The FarmSafe Advisor comes to you!

Comprehensive Planning (2-3 day workshop—typically scheduled over a few months)

- This option is ideal for producers who need a full safety plan completed relatively quickly, but need to keep planning costs down or have some level of expertise with safety and planning. The FarmSafe Advisor conducts the classroom time, producers work on the document at home.

Self-Paced Planning (working one-on-one with a FarmSafe Advisor)

- This option is ideal for producers who want to begin safety planning, but want to set their own pace. Your FarmSafe Advisor will help you set achievable planning goals to fit your time frame.

Self-Paced Planning (attending 8 separate workshop sessions)

- This option is ideal for producers who want to begin safety planning, but want to set their own pace and keep costs down.

FarmSafe Alberta options

What if none of those training delivery options work for a producer?

If a producer feels the comprehensive or self-paced FarmSafe planning options won't work, they may need to explore secondary planning options:

- Complete a different health and safety management system course through a Certifying Partner
- Work with a health and safety professional to build a different health and safety management system*
- Request a free copy of the FarmSafe Alberta planning guide for personal, uninstructed use*
- Visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/farmsafety to access the pre-planning tools*

** These options may not meet the minimum standards for a health and safety management system as established by Partnerships in Injury Reduction. Producers wishing to achieve their Certificate of Recognition (COR) or Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) will need to ensure they have completed FarmSafe with instruction or work directly with a Certifying Partner.*

How can a commodity group, board or commission help?

With a direct connection to commodity-specific producers, commodity-focused organizations are in a unique position to be positive voices for agricultural health and safety practices—including safety planning!

These organizations can help by arranging for comprehensive and self-paced training options for their members.

Consult your members to gauge demand for comprehensive or self-paced training

- If a group of producers can assemble together, the cost per student can be shared much more efficiently. For example, if an Advisor's training rate is \$750 for a one day workshop and a group can get 10 producers into a classroom, the cost-shared price is \$75/each!

Book training with the FarmSafe Advisor of your choice

- Visit the program's website to access the list of FarmSafe Advisors.
- Individual element modules or the FarmSafe Plan manual are provided free of charge from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) to groups with registered producers.
- If locating a suitable venue proves to be difficult, or too expensive, groups are invited to get in touch with AF staff to discuss options.
- Training records will be maintained by AF and a Certificate of Participation is issued to all producers for their records.

While the manual or element modules are provided free of charge, FarmSafe Advisor instructional time does have a cost. Some groups may be able to cover or off-set the training costs whereas some groups may need to establish a cost-share between participating producers.

Growing Forward 2 grants are available for FarmSafe training. Visit the Alberta Farm Safety Program's website for more information and to review eligibility.

www.agriculture.alberta.ca/farmsafety