

FARM SAFETY AND CARBON MONOXIDE

Prevent poisoning and injury with these simple steps



Farming relies heavily on gas-powered equipment. This equipment, including tractors, ATVs, propane heaters, and gas-powered generators, can increase the risk for carbon monoxide poisoning.



PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

- Gas-powered equipment creates carbon monoxide through exhaust.
- Carbon monoxide cannot be seen or smelled, but it can sicken or even kill you.
- Be aware of the symptoms. Headaches, tiredness, nausea, and vomiting are potential indicators of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Regularly check and maintain furnaces, propane heaters, and other gas-powered farm equipment.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors in outbuildings for safety.
- Never run generators, gas-powered tools, or vehicles in enclosed or poorly ventilated areas.
- Generators should be run 20 feet away from people or structures.



PREVENT ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS

- Use the correct extension cord. Cords should be heavy-duty, grounded (3-pronged), have a rating that exceeds the load, and be designed for outdoor use.
- Never plug a generator into a wall outlet unless an electrician has installed a transfer switch.
- Avoid touching a wet generator to reduce risk of electrical shock.



PREVENT FIRES

- Follow manufacturer instructions for all equipment.
- Purchase and use gas cans with safety features.
- Never store fuel near an ignition source.
- Before refueling a generator, turn it off and let it cool down.
- Maintain fire extinguishers in all outbuildings.

