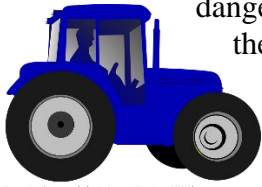


Farm and Pipeline Safety



SOURCE: <http://www.tractor.com>

Farming is a dangerous business. Farming ranks right with mining and energy as the most dangerous occupations. North Dakota is no exception. Each year farm accidents take the lives of several farmers in the state and many others are injured doing their day to day jobs. When we combine farming and oilfields we increase the risk of accidents and death. Just the increased traffic adds a significant increase in risk. When you mix farming and pipelines the risk goes up dramatically. Many of us have seen the sprayers, air seeders, and other equipment stuck in wet pipeline trenches, and heard of or seen major damage to equipment done getting it out. That damage can go the other way too.

One of the leading causes of pipeline failure is 3rd party damages. The Common Ground Alliance recently released the 2015 DIRT Report; the information painted a very sobering picture about farming and safe pipeline operations. On the whole, 31% of all damages to buried pipelines occur because there was no call to 811. For farmers and landowners that number skyrockets to 80%.



SOURCE: <http://www.oilfield.com>

Whether it be burying a rock pile, cleaning a drainage ditch, putting in a new fence, or preparing for a new bin site, landowners and producers need to know what is under the surface.

Farmer and Rancher Responsibilities in Pipeline Safety

- ♦ Call 811 three days before any digging project
- ♦ Wait for facility operators to mark the lines with paint and flags
- ♦ Dig with care and respect the marks, use hand tools only when digging within 5 feet of any marking paint or flags
- ♦ Notify the pipeline operator if ANY contact was made with the pipeline
- ♦ If you smell, see or hear evidence of a leak, locate the nearest pipeline marker and contact the pipeline operator immediately from a safe distance - leave the area on foot, heading uphill and upwind whenever possible

Pipelines are the safest mode of energy transportation. Let's work together to improve both farm and pipeline safety records.