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# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY University Extension

# Safe Farm 30 Seconds PSAs

## **Harvest Noise (30 seconds)**

The busy buzz of harvest is not too far away. It comes from working around loud tractors, combines, augers, and grain drying equipment. Exposure to these harvest noises hour after hour can lead to a measurable hearing loss unless you protect your ears.

If you have to shout to be heard by someone three feet away, you need hearing protection. You should use only approved hearing protection. Spend the time now and find the personal hearing protection that works for you before the busy buzz of harvest.

### Save Your Ears (30 seconds)

Your ability to hear is similar to a field of grass. A few people strolling across the field has no long term effects. But have an all-day event with 90 people and there will be visible signs of damage. Loud noises over long periods can cause the damage to your hearing. Unlike the field that can be reseeded, hearing damage is irreversible.

The first defense is to eliminate the hazard. If the noise can't be reduced to safe levels, use personal protective equipment. Choose to protect your hearing.

### Save Your Ear (30 seconds)

Exposure to unwanted or hazardous sound affects more than one's hearing. It increases blood pressure, causes abnormal hormone production, and contributes to sleeplessness.

Hearing protection like earmuffs or ear plugs is one solution if you cannot eliminate or avoid the noise. Make sure they fit well with a good seal and are comfortable. Make the choice that is right for you and then use them consistently to protect your hearing and your health.

