

**NATIONAL FARM SAFETY & HEALTH WEEK**  
**September 19 ~ 25, 2010**

August 23, 2010

In a few weeks we will be recognizing National Farm Safety & Health Week (September 19 – 25). This recognition has been an annual promotion initiated by the National Safety Council in 1944 and has been proclaimed as such by each sitting U.S. President since that time. Over the past few years, the development and dissemination of National Farm Safety & Health Week materials has shifted to the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety. NECAS is the agricultural partner for NSC and has been serving the agricultural family and business community since 1997.

This year's theme is *ATVs: Work Smart. Ride Safe*. Click on the ATV Safety logo on our web site, [www.necasag.org](http://www.necasag.org) for information and psa's related to this year's theme. We are grateful to our friends at Illinois Farm Bureau for their work in developing the theme and logo this year. Every year, there are more all-terrain vehicles in operation and the operators cover a wide range in age and ability. The U.S. Consumer Product and Safety Commission reports 410 deaths related to ATV use in 2008 and estimates over 135,000 injuries treated in our nation's emergency rooms. Although all the 2008 data is not complete, this potentially represents a decrease from 2007 and 2006 – and that is good news! We hope that safety awareness, community based education efforts, and attention to age appropriate use of ATV's is making a difference. For the most up to date regulations in your state related to ATV use, go to [www.ATVSafety.gov](http://www.ATVSafety.gov) and click on your state. Legislation and training is not consistent from state to state.

As we recognize National Farm Safety & Health Week this September, please join us in promoting safe and healthy practices on our farms and ranches across the U.S. and in our neighboring countries as producers enter the fall harvest season. We welcome your collaboration as we pay special attention to the issues of ATV safety and rider protection.

Have a safe and healthy season,  
The staff at **NECAS**