

## Living and working in remote areas can pose problems in an emergency. Prevention and planning will improve response to an accident.

The open space and distance of rural living can mean working in remote areas alone. If an accident happens, it may take time for someone to make the initial call for help. It also means it will take longer for emergency responders to reach you.

A little planning goes a long way to make sure help gets there as soon as possible. Communication is key. A cell phone is a must. If reception is poor where you'll be working, two way radios can bridge the gap.

Here are a few more simple precautions can have a significant impact:

- ▶ Encourage the whole family to develop a "what if" plan to determine steps if an emergency happens
- ▶ Establish a check in policy for people working alone or in remote areas
- ▶ Work with local emergency providers to create a site plan, outlining hazards and safety resources to help their response
- ▶ Train family and employees on CPR and first aid
- ▶ Work with county officials to determine 911 addresses of all farm locations, including fields
- ▶ Post emergency numbers and addresses of all locations by every phone and in every piece of machinery

In the event you have to call for help:

- ▶ Stay calm and listen carefully to the questions and instructions
- ▶ Note any special access requirements, like four-wheel drive or any potential obstacles
- ▶ Do not move the victim until responders arrive unless life threatening conditions exist

All family members, including children, can play a big role in knowing what to do in a rescue situation. By working together with your local emergency agencies, your neighbors, family members and farm employees, you can assure the best chance of survival and recovery from farm tragedies.

