

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department
of Labor

ON-SITE CONSULTATION PROGRAM

for Agricultural Industries

Agricultural workers may face a wide variety of workplace hazards and the risk of injuries or illnesses from, but not limited to:

- Animal-Acquired Infections and Treatment Activities
- Grain Bins and Silos
- Farm Equipment and Machinery
- Heat
- Livestock Handling
- Ladders and Falls
- Ergonomic Risk Factors
- Noise
- Pesticides and Other Chemicals
- Air Contaminants
- Unsanitary Conditions
- Vehicle Operation

Employers in the agricultural industry have the responsibility and legal duty to protect their employees from safety and health hazards associated with their work. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) worker protection standards applicable to the industry are numerous and compliance can be confusing and time consuming, especially for small employers. What's more, the cost of non-compliance could be devastating to a business. In 2024, the penalty for a single OSHA violation could be over \$16,000. That does not count the costs related to correcting the violation. A penalty for a willful or repeated violation could be over \$160,000.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S ON-SITE CONSULTATION PROGRAM

The New York State Department of Labor's On-Site Consultation Program is a free and confidential service that can help businesses reduce the number and severity of workplace injuries and provide guidance on OSHA regulatory compliance. The program is approved and jointly funded by OSHA and the New York State Department of Labor.

THE SERVICES OUR PROGRAM PROVIDES INCLUDE:

- Review and analysis of workplace injury and illness records to verify completeness and accuracy and to identify injury and illness trends
- Review and assessment of OSHA-mandated safety and health programs, offering guidance and materials to ensure proper compliance
- Worksite hazard identification and suggested correction methods and prevention strategies
- Employee exposure monitoring for air contaminants, noise, and other harmful agents
- Training on a wide variety of safety and health topics
- Evaluations of company safety and health management practices

Again, all these services are free and confidential. Participation is voluntary and scheduled upon request. There are no penalties or fines issued, and the employer chooses the scope of our services. However, in accepting our services, employers must agree to correct any serious or imminent danger hazards identified. OSHA will not conduct a general enforcement inspection at the worksite while the company is actively working with the On-Site Consultation Program. Our program is staffed by experienced safety consultants, industrial hygienists, and trainers who receive extensive and ongoing training from OSHA. We conduct several hundred consultation visits each year throughout New York State. For more on our On-Site Consultation Program, visit dol.ny.gov/site-consultation-program

Let us know if we can assist your business in improving your workers' safety and health and your compliance with OSHA. If you have any questions about our program, wish to learn more, or want to set up a consultation visit, feel free to contact us.

Phone: **518-457-2238**

Email: onsite@labor.ny.gov

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)

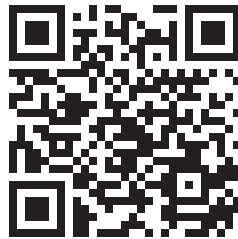
OSHA's website, osha.gov, contains a wealth of information on a variety of worker safety and health topics, including safety and health management. Employers are strongly encouraged to visit OSHA's website, its Agricultural Operations page, its virtual Compliance Assistance Quick Start guide, and its Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Program Management page.

OTHER SAFETY AND HEALTH RESOURCES

Other excellent resources are available from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Cooperative Extension System and various other organizations. Links to many of these resources can be found at osha.gov/agricultural-operations/resources

NYS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION

The New York State Department of Labor's Division of Compliance and Education also offers services for agricultural employers including, but not limited to, helping them recruit qualified workers, assisting them with coming into compliance with NYS Labor Law and serving as a resource to employers. More information can be found on the Division of Compliance and Education's website at dol.ny.gov/division-compliance-and-education



dol.ny.gov/site-consultation-program