

MEDIA RELEASE

“Playing Safely, Saving the Next Generation on the Farm”



A child dies every ten days in Australia from farm-related injuries. In fact, one in four of farm fatalities is a child. In addition, more than ten children are admitted to hospital every week with farm injuries.

This important issue is being addressed through “Playing Safely, Saving the Next Generation on the Farm”, a project of the Victorian Farm Safe Alliance and funded by the Department of Health and Ageing. The Victorian Farm Safe Alliance comprises the Victorian Farmers’ Federation, Department of Human Services, Department of Primary Industry, Worksafe and the Australian Workers’ Union. The project is being delivered locally by Northern District Community Health Service.

“Playing Safely” will promote farm safety awareness to children in the district’s pre-schools and primary schools through the “Farm Safety is Fun” interactive show in which Scallywag Scarecrow and Farmer Fran sing songs and involve the children in learning how to be safe on the farm. The show will appear at Leitchville, Gunbower, Cohuna, Lake Charm, Pyramid Hill, Quambatook, Koondrook and Lalbert in the period 8-18 October.

Because adults on farms have the ultimate responsibility for child safety, “Farm Safety is Fun” will be supported by a series of information sessions for parents and others responsible for children on farms (grandparents, farmers, uncles, aunties and rural property owners). These will be brief, informal sessions with practical suggestions and support on a range of child farm safety issues. These sessions will be held at Quambatook Hotel on Wednesday 3 October at 7pm, Leitchville Pre-school on Tuesday 9 October at 10.30am, Gunbower Pre-school on Wednesday 10 October at 10.30am, Cohuna Pre-school on Wednesday 10 October at 1.30pm and on Thursday 11 October at 9am, Pyramid Hill College on Tuesday 16 October at 3pm, and Koondrook Pre-school on Thursday 18 October at 7.30pm.

Adults attending the information sessions will receive a free reversing beeper that can be fitted to a car, ute or truck.

For further information:

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