PPP-64

Rural Security Planning

Protecting Family, Friends, and Farm

What are you doing to protect yourself, your family, and your property?

Purdue Pesticide Programs

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service

Don't let vandals, extremists, or terrorists send you reeling. Act now to minimize your risk of becoming a victim. Spend time and effort *NOW*

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Protecting Family, Friends, and Farm

Fred Whitford, Coordinator, Purdue Pesticide Programs
Steve Cain, Project Director, Extension Disaster Education Network, Purdue University
Kenneth Alderson, Security Management Consultant, Alderson Clark, Ltd.
Don Huber, Plant Pathologist, Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University
Jim Beaty, Superintendent, Purdue Agronomy Center for Research and Education
Don Biehle, Superintendent, Southeast Purdue Agricultural Center
Ryan Miller, Trooper, Indiana State Police
Alan Kemper, Crop and Livestock Producer, Tippecanoe County
Arlene Blessing, Developmental Editor and Designer, Purdue Pesticide Programs

Introduction

You may think that you know what fire department volunteers would do if your barn were to catch fire, but do you really? How would they react if no one were available to answer the question, What is stored in the barn?

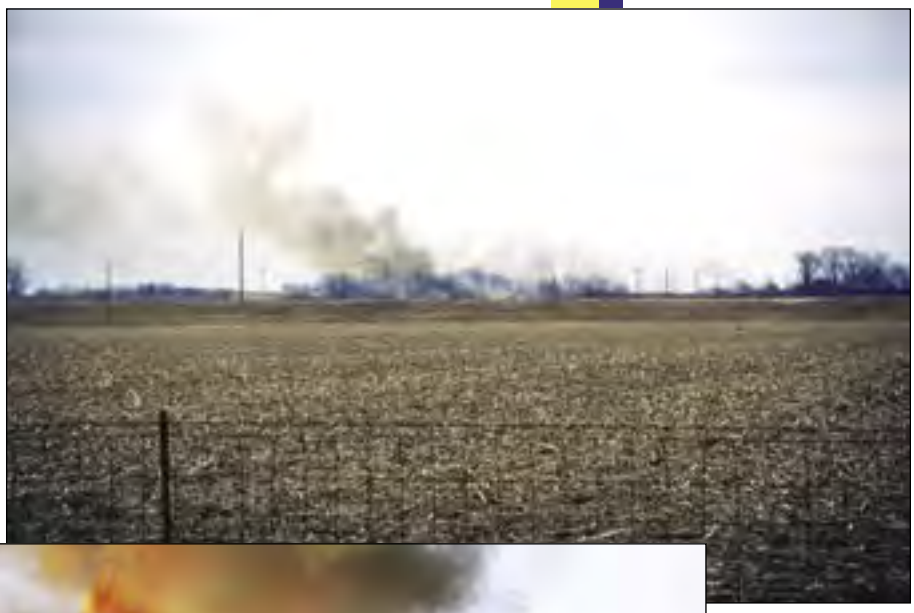
Who are the people who respond following a tornado? How would your local police react if you suspected someone were stealing your anhydrous ammonia to make the illegal drug methamphetamine? Are essential farm assets secured against vandalism and theft? Do law enforcement officials know what "hot" marketable assets such as farm tools and chemicals are located on your farm? How would enforcement officials or your insurance

company react if protesters were to turn off the electricity to your animal production facility or trample your bioengineered crops? How would various phases of government react if a terrorist were to release mycotoxins into your grain bins, and what would happen if you were to unknowingly ship some of the contaminated grain? What would happen to your livestock operation if a quarantine were initiated to curb a disease outbreak? These questions are linked by the necessity for accessible information to help responders react to an emergency in progress—an emergency on your farm. Is your farm secure? And is your family secure in knowing that you've taken every precaution to guard their safety?

As you read the following emergency scenario, think about what you can do to reduce the impact that an emergency on your farm might pose to your personal safety, your livelihood, and your community. Ask questions to identify what can be done in advance to limit your loss potential and to assist responders in coming to your aid.

The Scenario

A motorist traveling down the road late one evening notices smoke coming from somewhere behind a farmhouse. She immediately calls 911 on her cell phone to report the fire. She looks for a number on the mailbox, but seemingly there is none. She does her best to describe the location, citing as a landmark a silo that she just passed.



The 911 operator quickly dispatches emergency crews to the general location. They see dense smoke on the horizon, but they take the wrong road. They finally find the right road but have trouble finding the right farm lane. They slow down, trying to read each mailbox, and soon realize that they have passed the lane. Driving back, they locate the mailbox. The address is displayed on only one side, which is why they missed it the first time, and it is faded and only partially legible. Driving down the farm lane and up a small hill, they see one side of the barn engulfed in flames. Responders rush to the house to awaken the inhabitants, but no one is home.

The plan to control the fire is formulated on the spot by the incident commander, who decides to pour water on it and prevent burning ashes from igniting the farmhouse and other buildings nearby. In the time it takes the crew to move into place, the fire spreads to nearly half of the barn. The commander reminds everyone to proceed with caution, to wear their air tanks, and to stay upwind because the smoke may contain pesticides and other chemicals.

After the Scenario

The good news: The rest of the farmstead was saved, with no one hurt nor livestock killed. The barn was partially saved, and much of the machinery went undamaged.

The bad news: The water used to fight the fire combined with chemicals stored in the barn to form runoff that contaminated a nearby creek, resulting in dead fish downstream. To make matters worse, the farmer's insurance agent informed him that his policy contained a pollution exclusion clause; that is, while it covered the damaged barn itself, it contained no provision for remediation of the soil and the creek. Think about what caused the responders' delayed arrival, their questionable decision to put water on the fire, and the farmer's lack of financial planning.

Cover the Basics

This publication will help you develop a farm emergency plan that includes a farm map, a building contents list, and contact numbers for use in emergency situations. It presents strategies to protect your assets and lower your risk of falling victim to vandals, extremists, and terrorists. Attacks on your farmstead may seem unlikely, but you have to be prepared today more than ever before. Relatively simple changes or updates on your part can make the difference between

- life and death;
- protection and destruction of property; and
- chemical containment and contamination.

There may be many ways to improve safety and security of your farm. Glean from these pages those ideas that are applicable to—and make the most sense in—your particular situation. Before taking action, ask a professional law enforcement officer to help assess your security issues. Ask your insurance agent to walk your farm and assess your risk potential; then ask her to review your coverage and incorporate whatever changes are necessary to address your needs.

Crime and Pollution Insurance Coverage

Do you have insurance coverage that protects against theft, vandalism, pesticide spills, and/or terrorist attacks on your farm? If you don't know, find out now. Don't wait until you have a claim and be shocked to find that your coverage is limited or nonexistent. You need to know, now, what would happen if

- your property were vandalized.
- a methamphetamine lab or other evidence of drug activity were found on your farm.
- a disgruntled employee were to spike your well with a chemical.
- USDA were to quarantine your farm because of an infectious animal or plant disease.
- a trespasser were injured on your property.

Your policy may or may not cover all of the above circumstances; or it may cover some or all of them, with exclusions. Some policies contain clauses that specify no coverage or reduced coverage under specific circumstances. For example, if you run a farrowing operation for which electricity is essential, your insurance company may require you to have generators in place to keep the operation up and running and the pigs alive during an extended power outage. Also, some policies state a specific time frame during which you must report a loss—and beyond which the insurance carrier is under no obligation to pay the claim. Be sure that you understand your own responsibility to prevent or report a loss.

Make an appointment with your insurance agent to review your coverage. It is important to discuss specific descriptions, exclusions, and amendments. If you have high-value crops or animals, make sure that your policy covers them above and beyond fair market value. Ask if enhancing or installing security measures would lower your insurance premium.

Get everything in writing because there is no such thing as verbal confirmation. Insurance agents are human. They may unintentionally misinterpret the way a company writes your policy; or they may misunderstand your inquiry, leaving you with inadequate coverage or none whatsoever.

Review all notices and amendments that you receive from your insurance company. It is easy to lay them aside to read later, but do you always get around to it? A premium increase is the most common change that your insurance company will make, but other changes might be more discreet. For instance, your premium may remain the same—so there's no red flag—but the notice that you don't read may be to inform you that a portion of your coverage is being decreased or canceled!

County Emergency Address

It is disturbing that some mailbox addresses are partially or totally missing, that some are too small to read, and that others cannot be read in the dark.

Sometimes 911 addresses are posted on utility poles as shown here to make them more visible.

Below is a good example of a 911 address posting. The buildings are at the end of a very long lane, out-of-sight from the road.

Most Indiana counties have assigned emergency 911 addresses. The address should be boldly displayed in 3-inch reflective numerals on both sides of rural mailboxes. Standard mailbox-post signs can be purchased from some local volunteer fire departments, the local emergency management office, or a local retailer.

Emergency Information Mailbox

A permanently installed, well hidden mailbox can serve as an emergency information box. It should contain

- a detailed map of the farm.
- a list of emergency contact persons, with phone numbers.
- locations and amounts of hazardous chemicals stored on the farm, and material safety data sheets (available from your dealer or on the Internet) for each chemical.
- a list of the major contents of each building.

Your emergency information box will be very important to first responders if an emergency situation occurs on your farm, but only you and the authorities should know where it is. Have the location entered into the computer database at your local 911 dispatch center, and personally inform your local fire and police chiefs. This places responsibility on department heads rather than officers or firefighters who may or may not be among those responding to your particular situation. It is a good idea to keep copies of all materials stored in the information box at a second site on the premises: the farmhouse, a farm office, or an outbuilding.

This is an emergency mailbox. Make sure that yours is clearly marked and located discreetly; only you and the local authorities should know its exact location.

Pesticides in One Location

The storage of pesticides and other farm chemicals is of major concern to emergency responders, and the number one thing that you can do to help them is centralize your chemical inventory. Store everything in one building and mark it clearly on your farm map so that responders can tell exactly where your chemicals are stored. After you've made an application, always put leftover pesticides back where they belong. No exceptions.

Pesticides should be stored in an isolated building that is secured against theft and acts of vandalism and terrorism. Fire-resistant (e.g., concrete block) construction is preferable. Dispatchers should have your chemical storage location and your farm emergency response plan on file and readily available to police, fire, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. Centralized storage also allows you and firefighters the option of letting the building burn (versus putting water on it) to minimize contamination of adjacent areas.

Emergency Responders' Tour

A visit to the farm by local responders is good training for everyone. Invite fire department, law enforcement, and EMS personnel to visit your farm and identify the unique challenges it poses. Show them the locations of the following:

- water mains
- electricity control boxes
- fuel and chemical supplies
- your emergency mailbox
- livestock

Don't Keep Responders in the Dark

Familiarize them with your farm by providing the necessary information ... dangers lurk unseen!

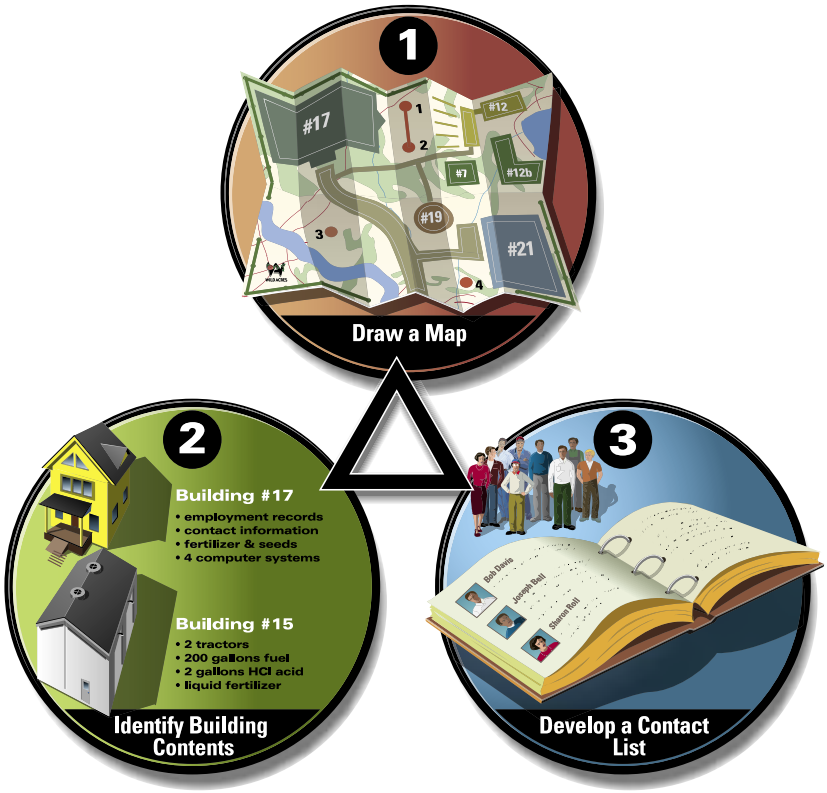
The more emergency response personnel who participate in your farm review, the greater the chances that one of them will be the first responder if you actually suffer an emergency. Encourage firefighters to write an emergency "pre-plan" for your farmstead since they are often the first to arrive.

Responders who take the tour may offer valuable suggestions for enhancing your farmstead safety and security. As one responder recently said, "I just go away with a good feeling. I know the place better and the individuals know me better, which makes them more willing to call for help in the event of an emergency."

Emergency Documentation: What's Visible, What's Hidden, and Whom to Call

It takes only three steps to complete an emergency document that will help you deal with any type of emergency:

- Draw a map of the farm.
- List the contents of each building.
- Develop a list of contact names and numbers.



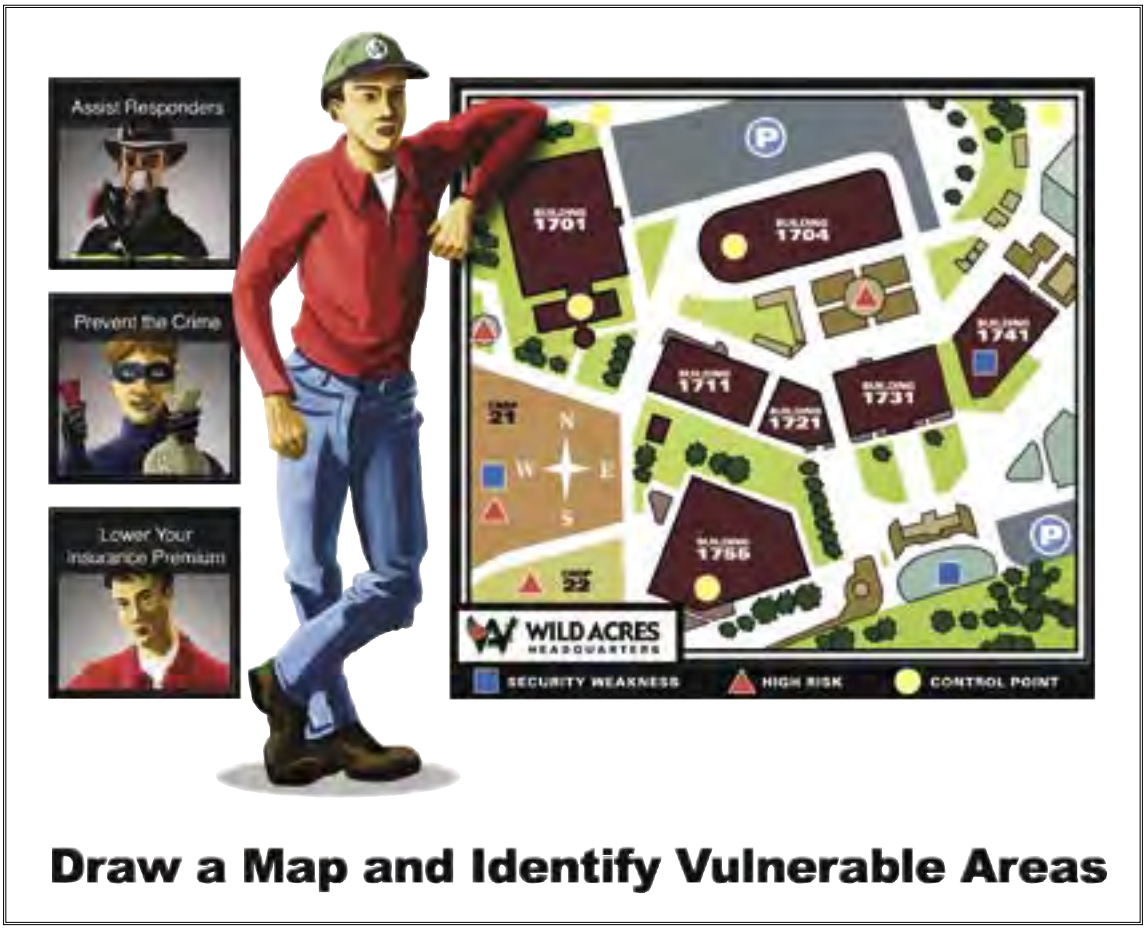
3 Steps to Documenting Your Facility for Emergency Responders

The Farm Map: What You Will See

Mapping the farm sounds complicated, but it can be a simple sketch of the farm layout that identifies the buildings and key points in the surrounding environment. The goal of mapping is to

- acquaint all employees, family members, and emergency responders with the layout of the farm.
- show hazards that might be encountered.

- help responders decide the best way to tackle a problem.
- assess vulnerable areas outside the farmstead that could be negatively affected if an emergency occurs.
- document assets for insurance and reporting purposes.
- identify crops and fields that may be targeted by agroterrorists.



Draw a Map and Identify Vulnerable Areas

Drawing a farm map may take you an hour or so, but it is extremely important. Emergency responders may have only a few seconds to determine what they are up against when dealing with a fire, explosion, accident, crime, or biohazard on your farm. *Don't make the map too complicated,* but do include sensitive areas like creeks, wells, and wetlands.

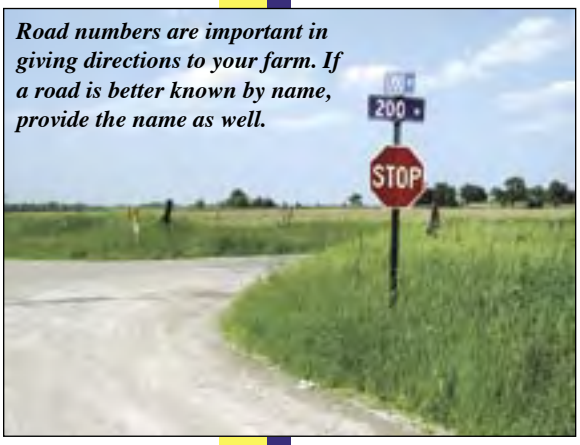
A concise map can be the most important source of information for first responders. For example, during a recent fire where there was no farm map, the farmer told responders as much as he remembered about what was stored in the building. About 10 minutes after the conversation, an intense explosion occurred inside the barn. The farmer was heard to say, "I forgot there was a 55-gallon drum of used oil right behind that door."

As you develop and analyze your site map, you will better understand what areas of your farm are vulnerable to intruders. It is especially helpful to review your plan with emergency personnel who have experience with these issues. Look at your site map and ask yourself, What would someone want to steal, damage, or contaminate? This will help you decide where to place additional locks, sensors, security lighting, gates, etc.

Developing Your Map

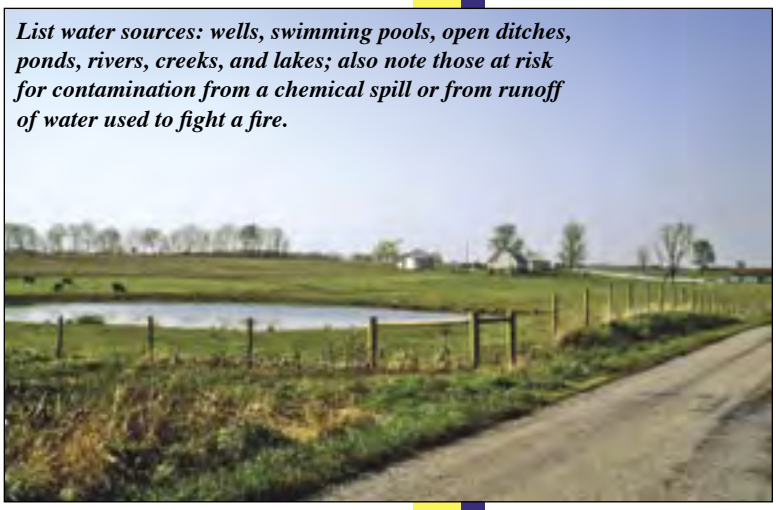
Sketch your farmstead map on plain paper at first; you can draw it to scale on graph paper once you've thought of everything you want to include.

- Write the farm name at the top of the page.
- Show the location of every building: houses, barns, equipment sheds, chemical storage facilities, etc. Write down the name of each building as it is commonly referenced by employees or family.
- Number the buildings.
- Distinguish clearly between small and large buildings; this helps responders figure out which building they're addressing.
- Site landmarks that are easily recognized: structures such as grain bins, barns, silos, and farmhouses that will help emergency responders orient themselves to your farm.
- Identify environmentally sensitive areas like creeks, wells, and wetlands (on neighboring properties as well as your own).
- Draw a directional legend for north, south, east, and west.
- Include road numbers and names on your map (top right).
- Indicate the proximity of your property to nearby communities. List the distances to schools, hospitals, nursing homes, subdivisions, etc.
- Show access lanes to your farmstead, and indicate areas that become impassible during wet weather (middle right).
- List load (weight) limits for farm bridges.
- Mark the distance to the nearest fire hydrant or water source.
- Your map should indicate wells, swimming pools, open ditches, ponds (bottom right), rivers, creeks, and lakes that could be used as water sources; also note those that are at risk for contamination from a chemical spill or from runoff of water used to put out a fire.
- Show prevailing wind directions.
- Show locations of dry hydrants (p. 15).
- Identify experimental or developmental plots that could become a target of anti-biotechnology groups.
- Label the locations of irrigation systems that have been modified with fittings that allow fire department use (p. 15).
- Indicate the types and locations of all fences.
- Show gate openings and state all gate widths (p. 15).
- Indicate where septic tanks, outdoor tile drains, all wells (active and abandoned), and cisterns are located.



Road numbers are important in giving directions to your farm. If a road is better known by name, provide the name as well.


Show access lanes and note areas that tend to be too wet to enter after rainfall.


List water sources: wells, swimming pools, open ditches, ponds, rivers, creeks, and lakes; also note those at risk for contamination from a chemical spill or from runoff of water used to fight a fire.

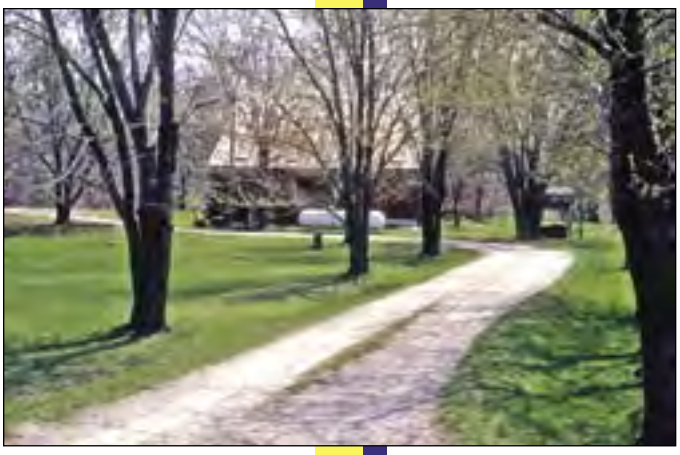
Dry hydrants are capped connections to water sources, to which hoses can be attached for fighting fires. If you have dry hydrants on your farm, be sure to site them on your map and inform firefighters of their locations.

Will your irrigation system accommodate fire hoses? Notice the connections highlighted in the photo below.

It is important to know in advance whether or not emergency responders' vehicles will fit through your gates.

Include every building on your farm map. Identify each by its common name.

- Show the directional slope of the land to indicate drainage patterns.
- Show pesticide and fertilizer mixing and loading areas.
- Indicate storage areas for hazardous materials such as liquid propane (right), fuel, and anhydrous ammonia tanks. Label each tank, stating its contents and capacity.
- Clearly mark livestock buildings that contain waste pits because of the falling hazard they present to firefighters or rescuers.
- Mark underground sewer, electrical, water, and gas lines.
- Indicate emergency disconnect sites and switches for gas, water, and electricity (right) as well as aboveground electrical service drops. State the height of overhead lines. List each utility by name and provide an emergency phone number for each.



Swine confinement facilities generally have waste pits. Make sure to include such information on your farm map.

- Clearly indicate low power lines.
- Show where switches for electric fences are located.
- Note the number displayed on the electric pole or box (right and below).
- Indicate your designated “congregation point” where your family and employees know to meet in the event of an emergency. This is crucial to confirming that everyone is accounted for as the emergency unfolds.
- Include emergency contact numbers for yourself as well as a neighbor or employee who might assist emergency responders.
- Include a long-distance contact number, if possible. In major disasters, local lines may be busy or out of service, whereas cell phones might be able to reach long distance numbers.

Buildings and Contents: Where Things Are Stored

In some counties, 911 responders ask farmers to number each building and display the number prominently on each and every door. Cross reference the building numbers (on your farm map) with the common names of the respective buildings. Mark or describe the following with respect to each building and its contents:

- A rough floor plan
- Occupancy: Are people, animals, poultry (left) equipment, supplies, grain, hay, tobacco (middle left), etc., normally inside?
- Valuable equipment inside that would make it particularly important to save the building
- Building dimensions (approximate)
- Building construction date
- Type of building construction: slab? crawl space? wood trusses?
- Type of roof, windows, and floors
- Chemical storage areas: types and sizes of containers. Keep inventories current.
- Chemical mixing and loading areas (bottom left)

- Indoor drains and where they lead
- Types of equipment: motorized? gas? diesel?
- Vehicles stored inside
- Manure pits in buildings
- Propane tanks
- Compressed gas
- Drums and contents (right)

Contact Numbers: Whom to Call

Provide a prioritized list of contact names and numbers in case you are away from the farm or incapacitated during an emergency. The first contact should be someone who is familiar with all operations and is authorized to make critical decisions in the event of an emergency. See *Emergency Contacts, pp. 45–46.*

Security Threats to Farms and Farm Operations

Even before the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, 1995, and the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, many farmers had concerns about biosecurity and agroterrorism. Since 9/11, agroterrorism has garnered more national attention. Eighty percent of the farmers who responded to a 2002 Internet survey indicated that they expect some form of agroterrorism to occur in the United States.

Security is becoming an important issue for farmers. Even though the risk of an attack on your farm is minimal, you should at least consider your vulnerability to criminal acts such as the following:

- Theft of anhydrous ammonia for methamphetamine production
- Theft of farm equipment or chemicals
- Arson, poisoning of your well, or the deliberate opening of a valve on a chemical tank
- Criminal mischief involving unsecured equipment and machinery
- Destruction of confined animals, property, or products
- Destruction of bioengineered plants
- Intentional introduction or release of a contagious animal or plant disease
- General vandalism

These multiple threats are real and must be addressed by all farmers. If an incident occurs on your property, do not tamper with potential evidence such as footprints and dead animals or plants. When reporting the situation, ask what you should do while you wait for responders.

Consider what would happen if any of the following types of intruders were to gain unlawful access to your property.

There is a fine line between mischief and vandalism. In the photos above, a deliberate release of pesticide was meant to damage property.

The Mischief-Maker

Many farmers have had crops, animals, or other property damaged for no apparent reason. Events that cause damage to livestock, equipment, fences, gates, mailboxes, and/or buildings often defy common sense. Limited access, no-trespassing signs, strategic lighting, stepped up patrols, neighborhood watches, and careful placement of equipment left in fields all help deter vandals and mischief-makers.

The Trespasser

The jogger, the artifact collector, the mushroom hunter, the dog walker, the snowmobiler, and even your next-door neighbor may represent a risk to your farm. How?

For starters, they may trample your crops or damage fences; they may dump contaminated trash; they may be at risk from hunters to whom you have given permission to hunt. Would you be held liable in a court of law? Perhaps.

Depending on the time of year and on field activities, the risk to your crops and other assets—including your wallet—may increase or decrease. In Indiana and some other states, a person cannot be arrested for trespassing unless he or she has been forewarned to stay away; therefore it is important to post “No Trespassing” signs. Developing a relationship with neighbors is important if access is to be restricted during busy planting, spraying, or harvesting seasons.

The Thief

The most common crimes on the farm are fuel theft and the heist of high-dollar items such as tools, computers, safes, fertilizers, tractors, backhoes, and pesticides in packages that can be easily picked up and loaded onto or into a vehicle. It is important to identify, document, and secure valuable items that might tempt intruders; and it is particularly advantageous to conduct periodic vulnerability assessments.

Keep tabs on your inventory. Maintaining accurate records will alert you to deficits that might otherwise go undetected. Conduct an in-depth audit to see what needs to be insured and secured; record all vehicle identification numbers and license plate numbers. A sound security program includes access control measures, property accountability, insurance coverage, and employee awareness.

Videos, scanned documents, and photographs stored off-site can be extremely important in assessing the value of lost or damaged goods.

The Narcotics Entrepreneur

Drug-related incidents such as theft of anhydrous ammonia from isolated nurse tanks have increased dramatically; and while your actual monetary loss may be minimal, damage to the tanks and the consequences of an ammonia release can be significant.

Consult your local anhydrous ammonia supplier and devise a plan to minimize the time that you actually have anhydrous tanks on your farm. Always be on the lookout for signs of tampering, and call the sheriff's office to report anything suspicious. Getting law enforcement involved is critical if suspects are to be apprehended.

Drug makers often leave a trail of crude collection devices, lithium batteries, mason jars, chemicals, and other drug paraphernalia. This type of litter

scattered across the ground or in barns and buildings may pose a real threat to human safety, and cleanup can be costly. If it happens to you, do not attempt to clean up the mess yourself. Ask the state police for assistance; they have specially trained technicians to do the job, and there may be state or federal grants available to pay for remediation.

The Disgruntled Employee

A disgruntled former employee can be a serious threat to your farm security as well as the safety and well-being of others on the premises. His familiarity with the farm and its security strengths and weaknesses make it easy for him to access critical areas. Current employees might allow him to enter, not knowing that he is holding a grudge, or he may have keys!

Any disgruntled employee should be considered a potential threat for workplace violence. Ask your insurance agent about an endorsement called “Employee Dishonesty Coverage” that can be purchased to cover losses caused by current or former employees.

If you are concerned about a former employee, reevaluate security and consider modifications such as changing locks and routine inspection times. If you believe that the individual might attempt to sabotage equipment, remove key parts during downtime to render it inoperable, just in case.

Anytime an employee voices a complaint, meet with him privately and listen closely and open-mindedly to his concerns. Even if you can’t change the situation, listening goes a long way toward deterring retaliatory actions by a disgruntled employee.

Hiring a New Employee

In order to protect your assets and ensure a safe, secure work environment, you need to know more about a new hire than what he or she puts on an employment application. Complete a pre-employment background investigation on each applicant whom you consider hiring; if you have two individuals who appear equal in skills and experience, this may be the deciding factor. The extent of the background investigation should hinge on the degree of access the prospective employee will have to your assets. Check criminal records back seven years for all counties of employment and residence. Trace his social security number to verify the number and places of residence. Check driver’s license records if the employee will be driving your vehicles; and check his or her immigration status as determined by form I-9.

If the employee will have access to money, computers, records, etc., a more detailed background check is necessary. In addition to taking the steps already mentioned, you should investigate credit records, civil records, and employment references; and you should verify the person’s education. All background investigations must be in compliance with the Federal Fair

Credit Reporting Act as amended by the Consumer Credit Reporting Reform Act of 1996. Outside firms can be hired to conduct these investigations in compliance with the law.

The Computer Hacker

It seems that each week a new computer virus is crashing computers across the country, destroying valuable documents. Computer terrorists can destroy years' worth of your data in a matter of minutes: financial and crop production records, lease contracts, and government program information. Cyber-terrorists can make it difficult for you to plan for the future by destroying your records of the past. But modern technology provides simple, inexpensive ways to back up your records as a safeguard against such a loss.

Work with your computer service provider to be sure that your computer has adequate protection, and back it up at least once a week: no exceptions. File hard copies of critical information and important records outside your home or office. Designate a safe place at a remote location and maintain it diligently so that is *always* up-to-date. Together, these two precautions will protect your computer data as well as it can be protected, and the effort it takes to do these things is minimal compared to the problems you might encounter if a computer hacker were to strike.

The Homegrown Extremist

Extremists are not activists who protest by writing letters to the editor, push for legislative reforms, or assemble peacefully to protest government policies. Instead of working through appropriate channels to effect change, extremists resort to criminal acts such as trespassing, burning buildings, and releasing animals from captivity; they may destroy genetically modified plants or drive steel spikes into trees scheduled for harvest. People can be severely injured or killed as a result of extremists' actions, even if the perpetrators don't intend to inflict bodily harm.

Extremists may plan criminal acts in the name of a cause, but they normally lack the skill to deal with well-planned security systems. They look for soft targets such as farms and facilities where there is little or no security, where fields or buildings are essentially out-of-sight, or where security measures are lax. Even where security exists, extremists sometimes will attack if they deem their intent worth the risk of getting caught. They tend to work in specific geographical areas and with specific types of production (dairy, poultry, swine, etc.); genetically modified crops may also be targeted. Review your operation with an informed county sheriff or state police officer to find out if your farm is at risk.

Try to make extremists' risk unacceptable. Defend against their attacks with security measures that reflect your specific situation. Place your valuable or vulnerable property in locations where it is unlikely to be targeted or affected. Sometimes you can't protect everything, so check with your insurance representative to determine exactly what your insurance policy covers. Are you insured for damage caused by protestors? If you implement extra safety and security measures, ask your insurance agent for a premium reduction based on your efforts to protect yourself against loss—and your insurance company against having to pay a claim. Find out if your state or industry keeps Global Positioning System and Geographic Information System data as public records or on an Internet site that reveals the physical location of your farm; if so, consider what to do.

The Terrorist

The common criminal is motivated by monetary gain, but often he is deterred by the risk of getting caught. The terrorist, on the other hand, has political or idealistic goals; his focus is on accomplishing his mission, even if there is a good chance that he will get caught. His actions are planned and coordinated; often they are carried out by skilled, trained—and perhaps armed—adversaries. Security measures that normally deter vandals, petty thieves, and fringe extremists likely will not deter terrorists, so plan your security measures accordingly. Acknowledge that the threat is real. Protect your critical assets.

What is the terrorist threat? An Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) survey asked farmers to identify specific threats posed by terrorists. Responses to the questions below indicate current perceptions; the full text of the survey is available on the EDEN website.

- (Q) How likely do you think it is that an agricultural, food, or water bioterrorist attack will take place somewhere in the USA?
  [Likely: 86%; Unlikely: 14%]

- (Q) Do you feel that you are properly prepared for agroterrorism or some other security-based event against your operation?
  [Yes, 14%; No, 51%; Don't Know, 35%]

- (Q) If you feel your operation is at risk to terrorist activity, which aspects do you think are at greatest risk? Check all that apply.
  [Contamination of water, 45%]
  [Loss of livestock or other animal production, 44%]
  [Loss of income due to impact on commodity markets, 41%]
  [Contamination of animal or crop production, 31%]
  [Contamination of feed, 29%]

Terrorists are bent on doing extensive damage to agricultural production and processing facilities. Their goals are to undermine public confidence in the safety and reliability of the nation's food supply, to wreak large-scale

economic havoc, and to generate political instability. Government officials and university scientists are concerned that terrorists could introduce virulent forms of animal and plant diseases or chemical agents into American agriculture. Threats to the local or municipal drinking water supply and power distribution systems are of concern as well. While the direct physical risk to individual farm operations is low, the impact of an attack on a large region or the entire country could be devastating. Even false rumors have caused a significant drop in market prices of impacted commodities.

Terrorist groups may practice prior to actually committing the act; that is, they might conduct dry runs to make sure that they have everything in place before they actually strike. You can deter their efforts by using good judgment in conducting your farm operation, by being aware of visitors to your farm, and by scouting for unusual crop or animal disorders. Vigilance is imperative. The USDA website contains information on and images of symptoms of exotic plant and animal diseases.

It is important to report outbreaks of suspicious diseases to authorities—promptly—to limit potential terrorist activities. In an EDEN survey, 80 percent of farmers polled said they would contact their Cooperative Extension Office if they suspected an unusual crop disease. About 70 percent reported that they would contact a veterinarian if they suspected an unusual animal disease. These are important steps toward getting a proper diagnosis and taking appropriate action to prevent the spread of an organism.

These scenarios are not meant to imply that America's farms are under attack; and neighbors certainly should not fear living next to your agricultural operation. Rural areas are still safe places to raise a family and enjoy a wonderful way of life. However, in today's changed world you, the farmer, must implement security measures to protect your farm, your family, and your neighbors. You must do your part through preparation and planning to thwart potential attacks.

Security Planning in a Nutshell

Minimum farm security is a must, and your first step should be to determine and understand the real threat to your property. Ask yourself, What needs to be protected? Then consider the Three Ls: Lock, Light, and Limit access—in that sequence. Don't make the mistake of installing a protection system and implementing security measures without identifying what is most at risk; doing so could prove costly, ineffective, and/or inadequate.

Prioritize Assets and Security

What processes and operations are essential to the survival of your farm? That is, what are your critical assets? What would be the consequences of losing them? Prioritize your critical assets and your application of security measures to protect them.

Who Are the Bad Guys?

The bad guys could be insiders such as former or disgruntled employees, or they could be outsiders whom we commonly call extremists or terrorists. Each poses a potential threat. Speak with local law enforcement personnel about your critical assets and the likelihood of their being targeted for attack, and implement security measures based on the estimated motive and capabilities of the potential aggressor.

View from Your Adversary's Perspective

Look at your property, buildings, and critical assets from the adversary's perspective. Ask yourself, What would be the easiest method for an adversary to use to steal, attack, or destroy a particular asset? Once you identify the potential adversary's targets and paths, you can start to devise security countermeasures to deter, detect, delay, and respond to an attack.

Threat + Vulnerability = Risk

Consider these definitions:

- **Threat: A person's intent on stealing or destroying assets**
- **Vulnerability: An exploitable security deficiency**
- **Risk: Potential loss of (or damage to) assets**

Look at your operation from the adversary's perspective. Ask yourself these questions:

- Who represents a THREAT and what is the target?

- What is the target's degree of VULNERABILITY? Is the potential target easily accessible? Would it be noticed right away if someone tampered with it? Is it properly secured against intruders?
- How great—and how real—is the RISK that someone might steal, attack, or destroy it?

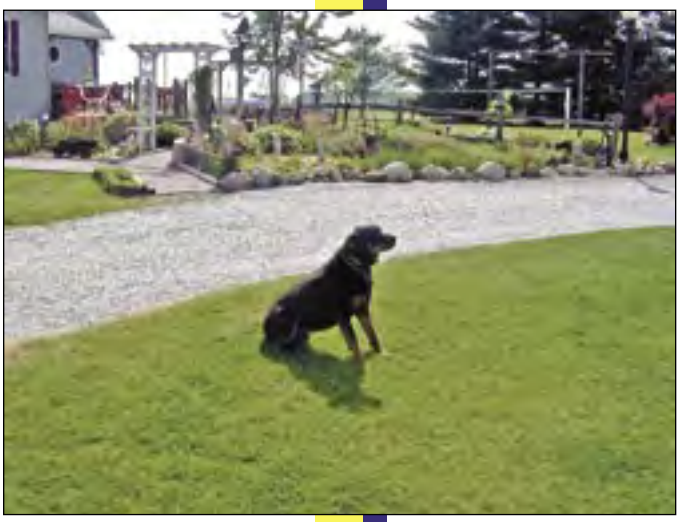
Only by identifying the risk can you assess it and determine what must be done to protect your assets. Ask yourself what path an adversary might take to steal, attack, or destroy your assets; then implement security measures accordingly.

Security Strategies and Measures

An effective physical protection system is based on three basic principles: deterrence, detection, and delay.

Deterrence

Lighting a dark area may deter the would-be intruder who is simply not bold enough to risk being seen. Motion-activated lighting provides an element of surprise and can catch a perpetrator off guard. Other deterrence strategies include the installation of gates, fences, and no-trespassing signs; barking dogs can be effective as well.



Deterrence is the first line of defense toward making your farm property too risky to enter, but some adversaries will not be deterred no matter what you do. The true effectiveness of deterrents cannot be measured.

An Effective Physical Protection System Has...

Detection

The purpose of a detection system is to alert you when someone enters your property; devices such as electronic sensors and cameras can be very effective. But so can visual surveillance by employees and neighbors: heads-up observation and awareness are hard to beat. If you suspect that your property may be targeted, ask local law enforcement personnel to increase their patrol of the area.

Something as simple as stretching a cable across a lane entrance can deter or delay an intruder.

Delay

Delay strategies are meant to slow and disrupt the perpetrator's attempt to access your property. Physical barriers such as locks, fences, doors, and distance from the road are effective in delaying the intruder, but it is important not to hinder access for emergency responders or routes for evacuation. Effective delay tactics allow enough time—between detection and access—for law enforcement officials to respond and catch the intrusion in progress.

Delaying the intruder increases the likelihood of apprehension. Ask your sheriff how long it would take his officers to reach your farm in response to a 911 call. Whether the response time is five minutes or thirty, your delay tactics must keep the intruder on-site for that long in order to be effective. Concentrate delay efforts away from likely targets in order to keep the intruder from accessing them before help arrives.

Relative Cost of Security Measures

Operational security usually doesn't cost a thing. If you don't have a security plan in place, start by gearing procedures toward protecting your assets. Educate your employees and family members to always be aware of their surroundings and what is going on around them. Alert them to assets that an intruder might want to damage, destroy, or steal. Make security a part of everyone's job.

Establish multiple scouting patterns and juggle them randomly; that is, purposely make farm visits at various times of the day and on various days of the week. Don't give an intruder the advantage of knowing when and how often you check your farm. Switch scouting responsibilities now and then to keep everybody sharp; and even if employees or family members are responsible for most of your security procedures, make it a point to perform them yourself at least part of the time to stay on top of things.

Electronic security systems—alarms, access controls, video surveillance, and motion sensors—can be expensive, but the cost is justified by the protection they provide. Physical security barriers such as fences, gates, locks, and security doors are relatively inexpensive by comparison, and they, too, are worth the investment.

Do not put someone at risk to protect your property. If specific assets are threatened, or if you suspect that someone's life is in danger, call the police. Also keep in mind that extreme security measures on your part—especially if there is a potential for violence—could cost you more in liability than the value of the assets you're protecting. Professional law enforcement should prevail in these situations.

Your most expensive security measure might be the hiring of security guards or employees to perform specific security functions. But you can minimize your expense by hiring guards on a short-term basis, only, to protect a critical asset during a period of heightened risk. An example might be the hiring of someone to guard a short-term animal research project.

Farm Security: Where to Begin

There are various approaches that you can take to protect people, property, and other assets; and whether you ultimately choose a high-tech electronic system or just locks and lights, you must plan your approach and adopt the procedures necessary to implement it. Study your situation and identify any assets that might be threatened, establish the measures that you feel are adequate to protect those assets (such as installing equipment), and implement your system by training and assigning personnel to manage it. Your strategy and security design should be commensurate with perceived security risks and the assets to be protected.

The Foundation of an Effective Security Program

Physical Protection Planning

- Arrange to have a security survey conducted.
  - Your insurance agent probably performed a limited assessment of your property to identify risks on which to base premiums. But since insurance appraisals are generally targeted toward fire and safety, they often yield insufficient information on which to base a comprehensive physical protection program.
  - State and local law enforcement agencies are efficient in conducting surveys to identify vulnerable property and assets.
  - A risk survey conducted by your fire department can identify fire risks and yield information that is helpful in making your facility safer. Example: An 80-foot setback is recommended for aboveground fuel tanks (heating oil tanks excluded).
  - A comprehensive survey conducted by an independent professional consultant is essential if you plan to purchase security equipment. Request a physical protection evaluation and a site characterization of your property and assets, and ask the consultant to design a physical protection system based on your risk potential.

EPA personnel reviewing the storage area of an agricultural facility.

- Ask your local Cooperative Extension Service educator for information on accessing security professionals and programs that deal with farm security.
- Bookmark the USDA website for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. This website has color photographs and information on diseases that USDA believes terrorists/extremists could use to threaten U.S. agriculture. The quick recognition of these foreign diseases by farmers and the agricultural industry is critical in preventing their spread and limiting their impact.
- The EDEN website provides valuable links to state contacts on homeland security issues.

- Review the FBI advisory dealing with the receipt of suspicious letters or packages on the farm. The advisory information can be downloaded from the following website: http://www.fbi.gov/pressre1/pressre101/mail3.pdf.
- Ask groups such as the Cooperative Extension Service and commodity associations to arrange a series of meetings to discuss what would happen to you, your family, and your crops and livestock if your farm or county were quarantined.
- Ask insurance agents what coverage is available for lost income and increased expenses due to quarantine; and ask government officials if you would qualify for subsidies in the event of loss due to quarantine.
- Ask government officials (e.g., USDA Farm Service Agency personnel) how they would compute your financial losses resulting from crop or animal quarantine.

- Estimate what *you* think the loss would be if your crops and livestock were subject to a government quarantine or product recall.
- Make sure critical items are covered by your farm insurance.
- Be familiar with your state's hazard response plan for animal and plant emergencies.
- Videotape insured assets, including physical protection measures, to support insurance claims. Still photos with dates, identifiable backgrounds, and lists of serial numbers and model numbers are also very helpful. Store copies of these and all emergency information off-site in case your farm office is destroyed.
- Develop contingency plans in case you can't sell grain to local elevators and animals through sale barns and livestock auctions due to a quarantine in surrounding communities.

Protecting Information and Counter-Intelligence Measures

- Contact law enforcement authorities if you observe suspicious or criminal activity on or near your property. Inform your neighbors as well.
- Protect sensitive business information. Disseminate protected information on a need-to-know basis only. Keep backup copies of supporting documents off-site.
- Do not put your name on the mailbox. Criminals and other adversaries have been known to look up a number and call to see if anyone answers; and, if no one does, they burglarize or vandalize your home and steal or damage your farm vehicles and equipment. Postal authorities may ask you to display your name on the inside of your mailbox to help substitute drivers, but you have the right to refuse their request due to security concerns.
- Stop deliveries or have a trusted neighbor pick up your mail and newspapers when you are away. A mailbox full of mail and a bulging newspaper box are indications that the farm is unattended.
- Place some lights and televisions on timers.
- Inform local law enforcement agencies when you will be away for an extended time and ask them to include your farm in their routine patrols; be sure to notify them when you return, lest you be mistaken for an intruder on your own property. Notify a trusted neighbor of a planned extended absence, and leave a phone number and an address where you can be contacted.
- Join or organize a community surveillance program. Set up a meeting with your neighbors to coordinate a system for looking out for each other. Provide a list of names and telephone numbers (landline and cellular) to each group member for reporting any suspicious activity observed on your property.
- Do not discuss or advertise what you grow, especially if you are raising potentially targeted commodities such as bioengineered or genetically

altered crops or livestock. This is important because activists cannot distinguish genetically modified plants and animals from their "natural" counterparts (e.g., corn or beans in a field, animals in a pen).

- Clearly and legally establish who will be responsible for the crops and livestock that you grow for alternative purposes (e.g., pharmaceuticals), once they leave the farm.
- Do not buy chemicals, fertilizers, equipment, or livestock at reduced prices from people you don't know. The merchandize could be stolen or contaminated.

Physical Protection Procedures

- Inventory critical farm assets. Conduct an inventory of important assets, including buildings, vehicles, machinery, computers, supplies, raw materials, livestock, crops, etc., and consider their vulnerability to extremists and terrorists. Compile a list, starting with the asset most likely to be targeted by intruders. While all assets deserve some level of protection, the priority process will help you focus on those that you cannot afford to lose. For example, your insurance company might not reimburse you for loss of livestock due to a power outage in a confinement building if your back-up generator is lost or stolen; so it makes good business sense to make sure the generator is in place and in good working order at all times. Review your inventory regularly.
  - For valuable items without serial numbers—or with numbers that are easily defaced—add an identifying mark of your own in a discrete location. Photograph the mark, showing its exact location, and give it to your insurance carrier; keep duplicate copies with your own records.
  - You or a designated, responsible employee should always be present when deliveries are made to your farm. Schedule deliveries to facilitate this procedure. Ask dealers and delivery companies to be consistent in sending the same one or two delivery persons to your farm if at all possible; if they cannot accommodate your request, ask them to maintain records of every delivery and the personnel involved.

- In coordination with emergency responders, develop and participate in realistic security training exercises. Develop and enact exercises that test the ability of your physical protection system to deter, detect, and delay a simulated intrusion (top left).

- Post "No Trespassing" signs along property lines and maintain them perpetually. Too often, signs are posted and forgotten: they deteriorate, fall down, or get removed or knocked down by vandals. So, in addition to posting signs in the first place, follow through by maintaining them.
- Signs announcing the presence of alarms, detectors, or surveillance devices can be helpful in deterring crimes.
- Vandals sometimes open valves on pesticide or fuel tanks, creating environmental hazards, so form a dike around them. Also, strategically

place extra soil near ditches or creeks where it can be pushed into place to form a temporary dam downstream if a spill occurs.

- Always ask to see the credentials of anyone claiming they are doing an official government inspection. If they are for real, they won't mind your request; but if they are imposters, your merely asking the question may be enough to discourage them. Ask to see photo identification. If you doubt the validity of the person's credentials, call the office or organization that the he is representing. Do not use the telephone number provided by the inspector since he may supply a false number; and if the inspector is an imposter, it follows that the party who would answer the phone would be an imposter as well. Use your own resources, independent of the person's helpful comments and/or telephone numbers, to verify his identity and purpose. Likewise, do not assume that a vehicle bearing "official markings" is an official vehicle: check it out.
- Control all access to your farm computers to protect confidential information such as farm history and financial records. Have anti-virus software installed and updated regularly, and change your password often. Install software (generally termed "fire wall") to protect against computer hackers.

- Farm computers with full access to the Internet (not dial-up) must also have fire wall protection.
- If your computer accesses the Internet via a continuously available communications path such as cable or a digital subscriber line, shut off your computer when it is not in use to prevent unauthorized access.
- Back up your computers each evening, and consider hiring an off-site storage firm to back up your system on a regular basis. Lock your computer room each time you exit. Discourage family members and others from accessing the Internet on a computer that contains critical business data.

- Store important papers in locked, fireproof cabinets—but remember that fire-insulated cabinets designed to store paper records do not provide protection for computer discs. Paper records can withstand temperatures to 350˚F, whereas computer media can be severely damaged by temperatures exceeding 125˚F. Many manufacturers make small file boxes that fit into larger cabinets (right) to provide extra fire protection for computer files.
- Conduct background checks on all employees, including seasonal workers.
- Require regular vendors to conduct background checks on their drivers.
- Establish a check-in point for all farm deliveries.

- Designate a vehicle parking area and an access area for outside contractors. For example, if there is not an operational need to drive a vehicle into the barn or other areas of the farm, simply do not allow it.
- Establish checklist procedures to ensure that access and authorization are terminated for employees who leave your employment.
  - Remove the names of former employees from all internal and external lists, especially those that list personnel allowed to pick up merchandise, sign for deliveries, place/cancel/redirect orders, etc. If you fail to remove former employees from your vendor list, they can run up quite a tab and you will be responsible for the charges.
  - Collect keys, credit cards, identification cards, and other means of access to your assets. Change your Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) as necessary.
  - Change passwords or codes on alarm systems, etc.
  - Change locks that protect critical assets in case the keys were duplicated before being returned (even if they are marked “Do Not Duplicate”).
  - If an employee is fired or quits without notice, notify the employee in writing, via U.S. mail, that he is not to enter your property without your prior authorization nor without an appointment.
- Move equipment into a locked building at night or when not in use; the time it takes minimal.
- Disable larger pieces of equipment by taking off critical pieces; e.g., remove anhydrous transfer hoses from nurse tanks.
- Don’t leave accessible any equipment that adversaries could use to accomplish their mission: a forklift, a front-end loader, a crane, wenches, etc.
- Do not leave pesticides and farm equipment unattended along roads and highways.

Lock and Key Control Procedures

Most farms depend on lock and key systems for access control, but the effectiveness of locks is dependent upon *key control.* Without effective key control, locks are useless.

- Establish a record of all locks and keys. State the location of each lock and the total number of keys that exist for it; also list the name of the person who is in possession of each key.
- Require employees to sign for keys, and inventory all keys periodically to account for each and every one.
- Keep key control records and spare keys locked in a safe or another secure location. Only the “key control manager” should issue and have access to key control records and spare keys.
- DO NOT HIDE KEYS! Intruders know to look under rocks, over doors, beneath doormats, etc.
- Issue keys to employees only as needed, and follow through to verify that each key is returned precisely when it should be. Remember: Locks are used to protect your assets, and keys should not be issued merely for the convenience of employees.

- Avoid or limit the use of master keys, and never take them off-site; keep keys to critical assets on-site at all times as well. The loss of a master key requires the re-keying of all locks in the system in order to restore security. Even temporary misplacement is of concern because there is no way to know for sure who might have had access to the key while it was missing, or if it has been duplicated. Keys should be returned at the end of each workday to the person in charge of your key depository.
- Many keys can be duplicated at hardware stores and discount centers, so use high-security locks for which the lock manufacturer controls the key blanks—that is, they are not distributed to hardwares and other outlets—and for which the owner is required to personally authorize duplication. High-security locks are pick-resistant, and the keys are embossed by the manufacturer with the words, “Do Not Duplicate.”
- Valuable items should be secured with a lock with a built-in, programmable keypad (top right). Codes can be changed easily at a moment’s notice.
- High security padlocks should have case-hardened steel shanks, and they should be tamper-resistant.
- Locks are only as good as the hasps to which they are attached. Use hasps that fold over themselves when locked, preventing access to the screws (right).
- Cables are not high-security. They do not protect; they merely help ensure the integrity of the lock or locked access. Seals are effective only if there is a seal verification method in place and the seal number is recorded; a good example is the metal clip (bottom right) that electric companies use on your meter. If the asset you want to protect requires high security, use a high-security lock; you may choose to attach a cable seal as well, but it will not increase the security of the asset.
- Use the same brand-name lock throughout your lock system to make detection of unauthorized locks more apparent (below). Periodically inspect padlocks to ensure that replacement locks have not been introduced, and look for signs of tampering.
- Do not leave keys in unattended vehicles parked outside overnight or for extended periods. This is especially important for any vehicle and equipment left in the field during planting and harvesting. Remove your pickup keys when parked overnight in the farm shop: a thief might use your own truck to haul your tools away!

Padlocks with the same brand name are used in these examples (safety guard had been removed from auger for repairs, left).

Physical Security Measures

Physical security measures are taken to protect your assets and to discourage intruders from entering your buildings. They include protecting doors, windows, fences, gates, etc., to prevent or delay an adversary's access to your property. Suggested physical security measures include the following. (Note: Measures pertaining to locks are discussed under "Physical Protection Procedures.")

- Lock your well cap and protect the well with secure fencing; and if you have an alarm system, be sure to install an anti-tamper device on the well cap. Plants, bushes, etc., can be used to conceal a well, but the effect is purely cosmetic; if the well is targeted, concealment provides no protection whatsoever.
- Install security lighting in key locations to deter trespassers (left). Cut vegetation away from buildings and fences to further enhance the effectiveness of lighting and to eliminate cover under which intruders might hide.
  - Light critical assets such as fuel tanks, grain bins, and chemical storage areas to discourage intruders.
  - Consider using glare (blind) lighting directed away from the asset that you are protecting and into the face of anyone trying to gain illegal entry. This causes intruders to be blinded, making it difficult for them to see who or what is in the vicinity of their targeted area—perhaps even causing them to abandon their intent.
- Exterior lights should be on motion sensors or controlled by photocells that turn them on and off according to the amount of natural light available. Manual activation and timers are less effective.
- Maintain clear zones along fences and other structures on property lines, eliminating obstructive vegetation. A distance of 15 feet is recommended.

- Install locked gates across lanes (bottom left) and driveways to prevent easy access to your home and buildings and to curtail non-farm traffic. Large rocks are useful in barricading trails made by unauthorized four-wheelers.
- Attention should be given to the hinged ends of farm gates to assure that the gates cannot be lifted off their hinges; the gates themselves should be constructed so that they cannot be disassembled by simply removing a few bolts.
- A driveway enunciator (e.g., the cable at the gas station that makes a sound when driven across) in critical areas can alert you when someone enters.

Electronic Security: Alarms, Access Control, Video Surveillance

- If recommended as a result of a credible security assessment, install electronic security devices to improve detection, delay, and response. Electronic systems and devices suitable for and applicable to farmsteads include the following:
  - Switches activated by the opening of doors, gates, lids, etc.; motion sensors (right) that light an area when movement is detected; video recorders that are activated by motion; and electronic access controls such as card readers and electronic key/lock cores that release locks and record entry data relative to location, date/time, card holder, etc).
  - Electronic card access controls, rather than keyed locks, should be used to restrict access where valuable assets are stored. They may not only control access but also record the date and time of entry; they may also record the specific card used to gain entry, thereby identifying the person whose card is used. Another important feature of electronic access is computerized control in selecting and assigning access levels and time zones when various cardholders' cards can be used.
  - Video surveillance systems consist of cameras (below), monitors, and recorders. The most effective use of video is its integration with intrusion detection devices such as motion sensors. A motion sensor triggers an alarm and activates the video recorder in the area where the motion originates.
  - Digital recordings are more efficient and effective than traditional audio tape recordings because 1) they record images as well as sound and 2) the tapes can be viewed selectively. The digital recorder is actually a computer that allows the farmer to retrieve and view video selectively by date and time of recording.
  - Alarms can be monitored at the farm or at approved, off-site alarm monitoring stations. If the latter, monitoring station personnel would call the police, according to pre-established protocols, in response to alarm signals received from the farm. In addition to signaling a monitoring station and perhaps your computer, an activated alarm might trigger lights and sirens and/or place an automatic call to your cell phone.
- Thread aboveground phone lines through a conduit to prevent access. Purchase a cell phone for backup in case your landline service is interrupted.

Protection of Anhydrous Ammonia and Other Chemical Tanks

- Store anhydrous ammonia tanks in secure areas, only, where they can be seen easily: preferably in a well-lit, secure area. If that isn't possible, park the tanks at the rear of the field rather than along the roadside. Do not park them close to homes or livestock.
- Remove hoses from anhydrous tanks when not in use.
- Install high-security locks on anhydrous ammonia tanks and valves.
- Do not store ammonium nitrate in bags: they are easily stolen and the ammonium nitrate can be used to fuel homemade bombs.
- Have on file a list of agricultural outlet employees who are authorized to pick up your pesticides and fertilizers. Be sure that they have photo identification.
- Secure mini-bulk tanks left in the field (left and below).
- Disable large equipment by removing critical parts; e.g., anhydrous transfer hoses from nurse tanks.
- Secure bulk chemical tanks with locks at main openings, and lock the sight gauge.
- Provide secondary recovery dikes for bulk tanks in case there is a break in the primary container.

Reporting Security Events to Authorities

Crimes do occur, and your goal and focus should be on preventing them. The following recommendations involve your actions relative to suspicious activities, crimes, and crime scenes:

Evidence that someone tried to steal anhydrous ammonia, probably for making methamphetamine.

- Keep employees up-to-date on any increased criminal activity within the community and in surrounding areas, and instruct them to report suspicious people or occurrences to you immediately. Notify them when you are expecting suppliers or visitors to the farm so that they won't mistake legitimate individuals for intruders.
- Keep a record of all observations and reports of suspicious activities; that is, log things that seem unusual, and date all entries. If an incident were to occur, the information could prove valuable to the police in apprehending and convicting those responsible.
- Report suspicious persons and vehicles to local law enforcement officials. Be aware of unfamiliar vehicles (not just vehicles bearing out-of-state license plates), including rentals, as they could be a prelude to criminal activity. Write license numbers in your logbook, if possible, but do not expose yourself to risk in getting them. Write down what you see and, if possible, take photographs or videotape the scene.
- Walk around buildings and along fence lines to look for signs of trespassing and unusual activity. Report anything suspicious to the police.
- Should you come across evidence of trespass or criminal or suspicious activity, do not touch or disturb anything at the scene. If you locate a marijuana patch, for example, the entire area may be "booby-trapped." Call the police and protect the scene from others until the police arrive.
- Should you observe a crime in progress, do not attempt to intervene. Call the police immediately and report all relevant information.
- When reporting a crime or suspicious activity to the police, report WHAT you saw, WHO you saw (description of persons involved), WHEN (date and time) you saw it, WHERE you saw it, and HOW the perpetrators might have accessed the area.
- After you contact the police, call your insurance representative to report any damage or loss resulting from the incident. Photograph damage to your property and take steps to prevent

Use the 5 Ws, plus How

When reporting a crime or suspicous activity

further loss. Be aware that insurance companies require timely reporting of theft and vandalism. Failure to report promptly can lead to needless delays or denial of claims.

- If your farm security is breached by an act of theft or vandalism, take immediate steps to reestablish precautionary systems: change locks, reprogram access codes, establish new activity patterns, relocate movable assets, etc.
- Call your attorney.

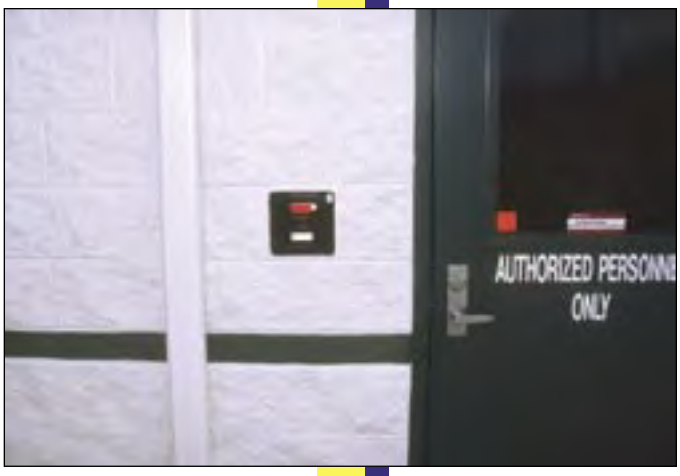
The Security Conflict: Sharing Sensitive Information

Fire emergencies require full disclosure to responders, while the details of security measures in place to thwart criminal activities should be kept confidential. There is a fine line between informing emergency responders—via emergency mailboxes, labeling of buildings, detailed maps of the farm, etc.—and preventing intruders from gaining that same information.

After planning a physical protection program, conducting vulnerability studies, establishing procedures, designing and installing security systems, and documenting all of this information for possible use by emergency responders, it would be frustrating and potentially catastrophic to have it compromised by falling into the wrong hands. Your main concern should be to avoid compromising your physical protection system while not impeding emergency response personnel.

Discuss the dilemma with your fire chief and law enforcement officials who have access to your security information (or would have in the event of an emergency) . Ask that they safeguard critical security information to avoid compromising your assets. Your concern about exposing your physical security measures should be based on the relative risk that you face. Don't divulge details of your security system to people who don't need the information.

A solution to keeping your confidential information secure yet readily accessible to emergency responders is to purchase and install a Knox Box®. This is a specially designed, locked metal box (right) which can be positioned at or near the entrance to your property. It can be opened only with a key that you provide emergency responders; the key box itself would contain keys to all of your buildings. Be sure to include the exact location of your emergency plan along with the key that unlocks the respective building.



The Knox Box is weatherproof and can be equipped with an alarm if an intrusion alarm system is in place; or, a stand-alone alarm horn or strobe could be installed to sound or light the area when the box is opened by an unauthorized person. The Knox Box allows fire departments and emergency responders to gain immediate access to emergency information on farms and at businesses, factories, warehouses, etc., nationwide. A large Knox Box can be used in place of an emergency mailbox for secure storage of plans and other documents as well as keys,

Think seriously about your specific concerns. Which problems concern you the most? Do you want to protect your farm against emergencies such as fire? Do you want to reduce your vulnerability to vandals, extremists, and terrorists? These are not either-or propositions.

Conclusion

Give serious thought to emergency preparedness and physical security on your farm. With just a little preplanning on your part, emergency responders can access information that will allow them to quickly, efficiently, and effectively deal with any emergency on your farm. But the efficiency of their response depends on the information that you make available to them: generally, the more, the better.

Quite simply, responders need to know what's there, what it can do to them, what they can do to reduce the risk, and how they can minimize further damage to your assets. The more information they have, the quicker they will be able to effectively reduce the risk to you, your family, your property, and your community.

Because of the potential danger posed by extremists and terrorists, farm security issues are of concern to farmers, agricultural associations, law enforcement officials, and federal agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Farm security awareness and education are critical components of our overall effort to shield the farm against criminal intent.

There are viable economic reasons for farmers to plan for emergencies and exercise measures to curb criminal activity on the farm. Heeding recommendations in this publication will reduce your vulnerability, and the implementation of security measures to minimize your risk might also reduce your insurance premiums.

You've invested untold time and energy to make your farm profitable, so make a commitment to increase your margin of safety. Making a few modifications and planning for what could or might happen will guard the safety and future of your biggest assets of all: your family, your friends, and your farm.

Resources

Security Websites

Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/pdf/btarule.pdf

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
http://www.aphis.usda.gov

Department of Homeland Security
http://www.dhs.gov

Environmental Protection Agency
http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/pest_secu_alert.htm

Extension Disaster Education Network
http://www.agctr.lsu.edu/eden

FBI National Security Awareness Program
http://www.fbi.gov/hq/ci/ansir/ansirhome.htm

Federal Emergency Management Agency
http://www.fema.gov/areyourready

Fertilizer Institute
http://www.tfi.org

Food and Drug Administration
http://fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bioterrorism.html

National Animal Health Laboratory
http//www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/highlights/section6/section6-6.html

National Biosecurity Resource Center for Animal Emergencies (at Purdue University): http://www.biosecuritycenter.org

National Plant Diagnostic Network
http://www.ag.uiuc.edu/cespubs/hyg/html

Telephone numbers for state health officials
http://www.statepublichealth.org

Terrorism Threat Vulnerability Self Assessment Tool
http://www.ncagr.com/industry_self-assessment.doc

United States Department of Agriculture Educational Materials:
http://www.usda.gov/homelandsecurity/materials.html

Books

The Complete Federal and State Compliance Guide for Hoosier Businesses. 2001. 440 pages. Order from Purdue University Press at (800) 933-9637 or via the Internet: www.btny.purdue.edu/PPP/

The Complete Book of Pesticide Management: Science, Regulation, Stewardship and Communication. Wiley & Sons. 2002. Ordering information: www.btny.purdue.edu/PPP/

Publications

Single copies of Purdue Pesticide Programs' publications can be obtained for $1 (except as noted) from the Purdue University Media Distribution Center (765-494-6794), or on the Internet: www.btny.purdue.edu/PPP/

PPP-18: Crop Production Recordkeeping System
PPP-19: Annual Field Records
PPP-21: Pesticides and Container Management
PPP-24: Pesticides and the Label
PPP-25: Pesticides and Application Certification
PPP-26: Pesticides and Their Proper Storage
PPP-28: Pesticides and Spill Management
PPP-31: Pesticides and Formulation Technology
PPP-32: Pesticides and the Community Right-to-Know
PPP-33: Pesticides and the Balancing Act
PPP-36: Pesticides and the Law
PPP-37: Pesticides and Material Safety Data Sheets
PPP-38: Pesticides and Personal Protective Equipment
PPP-42: Pesticides and Environmental Site Assessment
PPP-44: Pesticides and Planning for Emergencies ($31)
PPP-45: The Quick Response Emergency Plan ($6)
PPP-49: The Insurance Policy
PPP-50: Managing Farm Chemicals
PPP-51: Stay on Target: Prevent Drift
PPP-52: Pesticides and Risk Communication
PPP-54: The Why's and How-to's of Pesticide Recordkeeping
PPP-55: Company Bulletin Boards
PPP-57: Managing Farm Emergencies
PPP-58: Pesticides and Fleet Vehicles
PPP-60: Communicating With the News Media
PPP-61: Pesticide Safety Tips for the Workplace and Farm

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~~~ Emergency Contacts ~~~

Call 911 first!

Relationship Contact Person	Daytime Phone	Evening Phone	Cell Phone
Family			
Employees			
Neighbors			

Local, State, and Federal Agencies

Fire Department _____

Sheriff _____ *State Police* _____

Contact local and state police—not 911—to report non-emergency situations such as vandalism or theft.

Local Emergency Planning Committee
(Go to http://www.in.gov/ierc/ierc.html for local phone number) _____

Physician's Name and Phone Number _____

Poison Control Center: (800) 382-5544

Local Insurance Agent's
Name and Phone Number _____

Emergency Contacts, continued . . .

*Local Veterinarian's Name and Number*_____

State Veterinarian: (800) 227-0300

Your Attorney's Name and Number _____

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service: (800) EXT-INFO, or (800) 398-4636

Ask for the name and phone number of your county Etyxtension educator: _____

Office of Indiana State Chemist: (765) 494-1492

Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Spill Response: (888) 233-7745

Purdue University Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory: (765) 494-7440

Purdue University Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory: (765) 494-4641

Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture: (317) 232-8770

National Response Center: (800) 424-8802

Utilities

*Electric Company*_____ *Telephone Company*_____

*Water Company*_____ *Gas/Diesel Supplier*_____

*Propane Supplier*_____ *Utility Location Service: (800) 382-5544*

Vendors

*Pesticide Dealership and Number*_____

*Anhydrous Ammonia Supplier and Number*_____

Other Possible Entries

*Crop Consultant*_____ *Livestock Consultant*_____

*Corn Growers Association*_____ *Indiana Soybean Association*_____

*Indiana Farm Bureau*_____ *National Farmers Organization*_____

*Farmers' Union*_____ *Indiana Cattlemen's Association*_____

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