



For more information on the Agricultural Rescue program, visit the IFSI web site at

[www.fsi.illinois.edu](http://www.fsi.illinois.edu)

To request an agricultural rescue class, contact the IFSI Regional Rep for your area or

**David Newcomb**

Ag Program Manager

217/778-6652

[newcomb@illinois.edu](mailto:newcomb@illinois.edu)

### Ag Rescue Training Fund

The Illinois Fire Service Institute has established a special fund to support the Ag Rescue Training Program. With support from businesses, organizations and corporations, the Ag Rescue Program can be sustained and expanded to meet the growing needs for training in rural areas and farming communities. Access to more training on modern equipment and new information on farm hazard issues will assure that firefighters will be better prepared.

For information on partnering with the Ag Rescue Training Fund, contact Dennis Spice, Director of Corporate Relations at 217/898-6507 or by email at [dspice@illinois.edu](mailto:dspice@illinois.edu)



### Illinois Fire Service Institute

11 Gerty Drive

Champaign IL 61820

217/333-3800

Toll Free 800/437-5819

Fax 217/244-6790

Email: [fsi.illinois.edu](mailto:fsi.illinois.edu)



# Illinois Fire Service Institute



## Ag Rescue Program

### The need for agricultural rescue training

Modern agriculture and farming methods means more mechanization, more on-farm grain storage and more opportunities for people and machinery to clash. Between 1986 and 2010 there were more than 800 farm-related deaths in Illinois, with nearly half of those involving tractors. But, because the farm environment is so diversified, hazards are varied and not limited to tractors.

Life-changing accidents also occur on the farm and in rural areas. Quick and skilled response by firefighters can help reduce deaths and minimize injuries.

### Type of incident (1986-2010)

Tractor rollovers	192
Other tractors incidents	163
Other farm equipment	104
Grain bins	71
On the road	84
Other	193

Data compiled by the University of Illinois Extension.





## Meeting the needs of rural communities

The Illinois Fire Service Institute recognizes the need to provide firefighters and other first responders with the specialized knowledge to be effective in rural settings. It is especially important since nearly three-fourths of all Illinois firefighters are volunteers that work with part-time fire departments and fire protection districts.

The Institute offers a full complement of classes to help prepare firefighters to meet the challenges of agriculture rescue.

**Fires on the Farm** provides an overview of farm fires and brings together strategies, tactics, operations and water supply logistics. An online version is also offered.

**Grain Bin Rescue** is IFSI's most requested agricultural rescue class. Using a portable bin, training is delivered to local departments throughout the state. Students learn about

storage types, bin construction and operating features. The class also covers safe patient assessment, protection and packaging, plus patient removal in a variety of training scenarios.

### **Agricultural Rescue Techniques**

teaches first responders how to safely and effectively respond to tractor roll-overs, entrapment in ag equipment, agriculture chemical spills and electrical hazards. IFSI encourages departments to engage local farm equipment suppliers to supply modern equipment.

**Fire Fighting Foam Applications** provides the firefighter with a basic understanding of using fire fighting foams on Class A, Class B and Polar Solvent fuels and the effective procedures and equipment to apply the foam.

### **Anhydrous Ammonia Emergencies**

teaches firefighters about ammonia characteristics, environmental concerns, associated health effects to exposure and working with EMS teams. The class also discusses "first-in" and incident command responsibilities.

Many communities are exposed to ethanol processing plants and over-the-road and rail transportation for ethanol as the industry has become a familiar part of Illinois' landscape. IFSI offers classes to acquaint first responders and municipal leadership with the ethanol industry and the need to be prepared for potential hazards.

**Ethanol Awareness** is designed to give the first responders a basic understanding of the emerging ethanol industry. Ethanol (E-95 and E-85) is becoming the number one hazard moving through communities – even those without an ethanol plant nearby. The class covers chemical and physical properties, terminology, transportation, spills and their ramifications, plus much more. The Ethanol Awareness class is also offered online.

### **Ethanol Production Plant Awareness, Emergency Preplanning & Response**

helps prepare first responders to better understand the workings of ethanol plants and the problems that could be encountered with fires, rescues and other emergencies.

## Delivery of classes

The Illinois Fire Service Institute commonly delivers agriculture rescue training to fire departments at their locations and encourages departments to team with neighboring departments to maximize attendance and to help deliver consistent training. Agricultural rescue classes are available under IFSI's Cornerstone Program, at no cost to the department.

Ag rescue classes are also available during IFSI's annual Fire College and at regional training schools. Ethanol Awareness and Fires on the Farm are both available online, for the convenience of the student.