

# TIPS FOR A SAFE HARVEST



*September 19-25 is National Farm Health and Safety Week*

*Photo courtesy of Bob Nichols, USDA*

**A**griculture is the backbone of our country, and our livelihood greatly depends on the crops provided by American farmers. In addition to being one of the most labor-intensive professions, farming is also considered one of the most dangerous jobs in the United States.

The hard work and exhaustive labor are tough, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous—even deadly—when farming near electrical equipment.

Every year, we see collisions where tractors and other farming equipment accidentally collide with utility poles and power lines, causing injuries and power outages. These dangerous accidents can be avoided by looking up and around



**When practicing farm safety, consider all equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle.**—*Photo courtesy of Lance Cheung, USDA*

your surroundings when operating large farm machinery. If you're preparing for harvest season, please keep the following safety tips in mind:

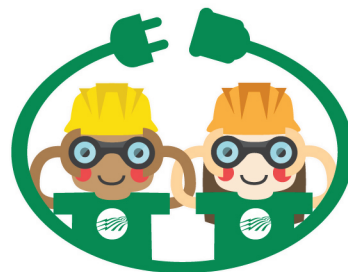
- Maintain a 10-foot clearance around all utility equipment in all directions.
- Use a spotter and deployed flags to maintain safe distances from power lines and other electrical equipment when working in the field.
- If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, contact 9-1-1 immediately and remain inside the vehicle until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab (without touching it), and hop away to safety.
- Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle. Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipes, and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.

September 19-25 is National Farm Health and Safety Week, but practicing safety on the farm year-round yields positive results. We hope you never find yourself in a situation where farming equipment contacts power lines or poles, but if you do, we hope you'll remember these safety tips.

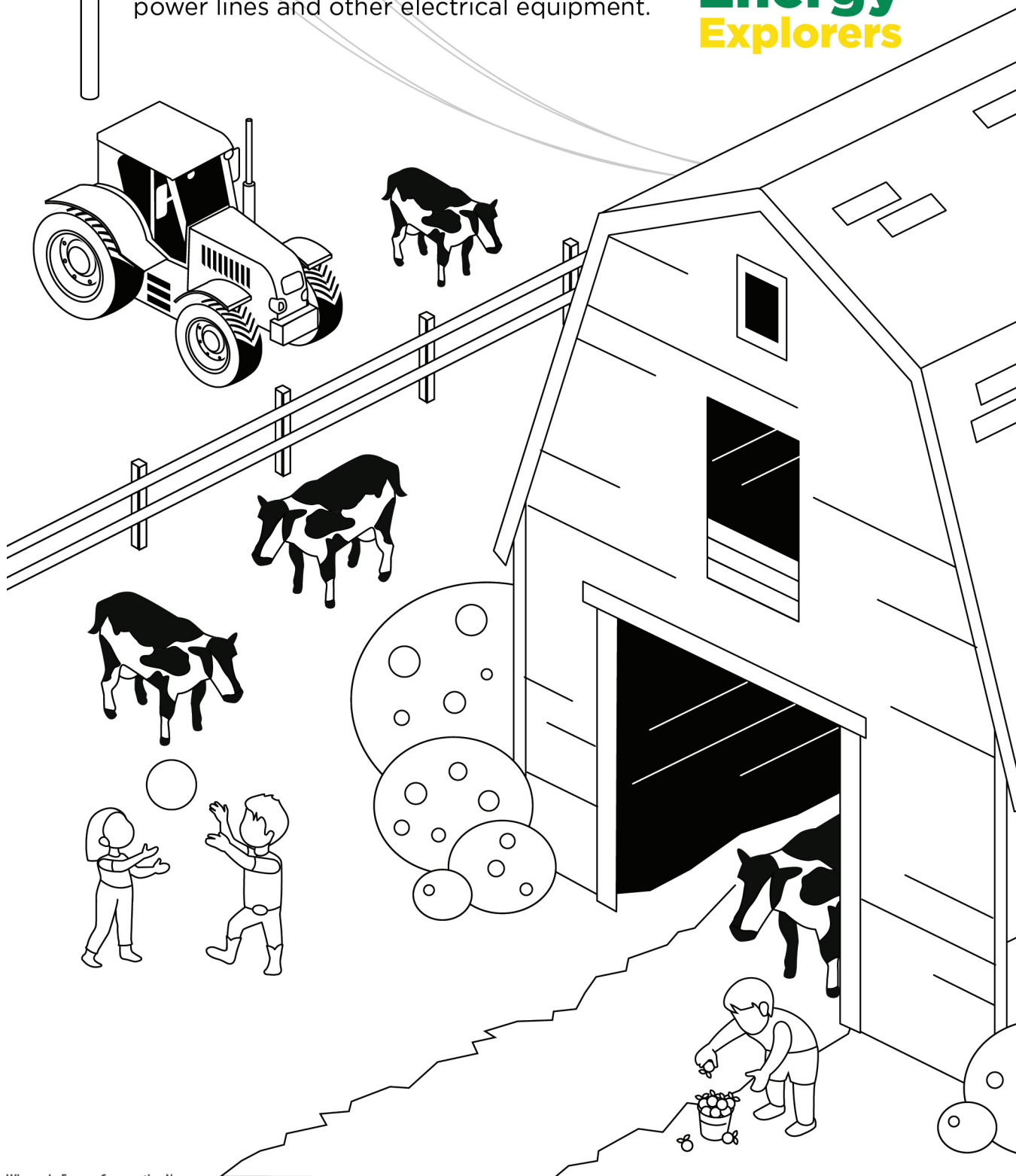


# Farm Safety Coloring Sheet

Farm Health and Safety Week is September 19-25! Whether you live on a farm or in the city, always remember to avoid playing near power lines and other electrical equipment.



**Energy  
Explorers**



# DONATIONS AND UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Did you know you can donate your capital credits to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's (CVEC) scholarship fund? CVEC awards scholarships each spring to graduating high school students of cooperative members. Please consider donating your capital credits to help graduates lessen the expense of continuing their education.

We ask that members, active or inactive, contact our office if they are interested in donating their capital credits to the scholarship fund. It is a simple process to donate these funds to a worthwhile program. Any unclaimed capital credits will revert to the Wisconsin Federated Youth Foundation, Inc. a charitable tax-exempt trust established by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association for educational purposes (per WI Statute, Chapter 185).

The following former members have unclaimed capital credits from Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative. If you know any of these people please tell them to contact CVEC at 715.239.6800 or by email at [cvec@cve.coop](mailto:cvec@cve.coop).

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