
Farm safety clinic for farm kids

By Jeanette Carter

Safety on the farm is no accident! For at least 134 youngsters in Simcoe County, farm safety awareness has increased this year. The Simcoe County



Jean Keffer, a Fire Safety Instructor and President of the Simcoe County Farm Safety Association, taught a group of youngsters about fire safety at "A Farm Safety Clinic for Farm Kids" held in Cookstown.

Farm Women's organization in conjunction with the Simcoe County Farm Safety Association ran two Farm Safety Clinics for Kids late this spring. The attendance was encouraging and the children's enthusiasm was second to none.

In the past, these two county organizations have offered safety workshops for other family members. But this year they decided to focus on the up and coming farmers. Both clinics offered instruction on PTO safety, fire prevention, chemical safety, general equipment safety, first aid, lawnmower operation and safety, and ATV safety.

With the support and assistance of volunteer instructors, the clinics proved to be a great success. Live and video demonstrations were conducted. And the mood for the day was established when the participants realized how quick and how severe an accident can be.

To reinforce what was taught, each child received a package of safety facts, decals and a certificate of completion for the clinic. Everyone in attendance, including the instructors, received a T-shirt with a safety slogan on it to commemorate the day.

The Simcoe County Farm Women and the Simcoe County Safety Association will be offering safety workshops in the future. The mandate of the Simcoe Farm Women's group is to educate on all aspects of farming, and farm safety is near the top of the list.

Farm safety education has been a proven factor in reducing accidents. And if the instruction at these clinics makes only one child stop and think before embarking in a life threatening situation, then it will make the clinics that much more worthwhile.

Jeanette Carter is a member of the Simcoe County Farm Women.

What ever happened to the resolutions?

By Joan Law

What ever happened to the resolutions passed by the FWIO at the 1990 Annual Board Meeting? The following action has been taken:

1. refunds on soft drink cans and fruit juice/drink bottles is under consideration by the Ministry of the Environment;
2. Support and Custody Enforcement Programs are under review; although more funding has been allocated, and Bill 17, the Child and Family Support Act, is expected to improve the rate of default;
3. over the past two years, more money has been allocated for publicly funded Homemakers Services; as well, the government is reviewing long-term care;
4. the Thalidomide Task Force has recently provided the additional information requested of thalidomide victims so they can receive assistance;
5. hazardous waste legislation is continually under review;
6. there are guidelines being developed to dispose of small quantities of hazardous waste at municipally operated Household Hazardous Waste Depots, but the onus is still on the generator of hazardous waste to dispose of it properly;
7. a "best before" date is not applicable to frozen foods because the freshness of frozen food depends on the quality and packaging used, and the temperature throughout preparation, distribution, handling and storage; these are the findings of the international working group that deals with food standardization, of which Canada takes a lead;
8. all FWIO members refrain from using plastic foam articles;
9. a law passed in April of 1989 requires that all irradiated food sold in Canada, domestic or imported, be identified with the radura symbol in conjunction with a written statement - "treated with radiation," "treated by irradiation" or "irradiated;"
10. the living will is now law; the government introduced and passed a new bill to guarantee the rights of Ontario residents to refuse life-sustaining medical treatment, even if lying unconscious in a hospital bed;
11. and, the Marmoraton mine pit will not be used as a landfill site.

Joan Law
Resolutions Convenor, FWIO

Food Safety Booklet

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