



## Grain Bin Safety Week 2019

*The following information is provided by Nationwide, the #1 farm and ranch insurer in the U.S.\**

Initiated by Nationwide in 2014, Grain Bin Safety Week is an annual campaign recurring the third full week of February to promote grain bin safety on farms and commercial grain-handling facilities.

A collaborative effort with industry leaders and agricultural professionals, Grain Bin Safety Week was created to raise awareness about grain bin dangers, provide education and share best safety practices. Together, we hope to reduce the number of preventable injuries and deaths associated with grain handling and storage.

Timed to bring safety awareness to the dangers of grain bins, a period when many farmers and grain-handling operations are planning for the upcoming season, this week-long event will highlight a different component of grain bin safety each of the seven days.

**Grain Bin Safety Week will be observed February 17-23, 2019.**

### **Injuries and fatalities: the startling facts**

- It takes only seconds to be completely engulfed in flowing grain or suffocated and overcome by oxygen-deficient atmospheres.
- 24 documented grain entrapments resulted in 14 deaths (58% fatality rate) in 2015.
- 38 documented grain entrapments resulted in 18 deaths in 2014 – the highest recorded since 2010.
- In 2010, at least 26 U.S. workers were killed in grain engulfment's – the highest fatalities on record.

*Source: 2015 Summary of U.S. Agricultural Confined Space-Related Injuries and Fatalities*

### **Nominate your fire department for a grain bin rescue tube**

Grain Bin Safety Week also promotes awareness of live-saving grain extraction methods and procedures that help first responders rescue farmers and other workers who've been trapped in grain bins or other storage facilities.

2019 marks the 6th year of Grain Bin Safety Week and the Nominate Your Fire Department Contest. Since its inception, the contest has received nearly 2,000 nominations and has awarded grain rescue tubes and hands-on rescue training to 48 fire departments across 18 states. Two of the tubes have been used to save the lives of two farmers. Several states impacted by the risks of grain handling and storage issued proclamations from their elected U.S. Representatives to officially recognize Grain Bin Safety Week in their respective states.

To learn more about this event, please visit our host site [grainbinsafetyweek.com](http://grainbinsafetyweek.com)

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