

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; Wisconsin is home to more than 64,000 farms, where agricultural producers work tirelessly to produce an abundance of high-quality grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy products, livestock, and more, contributing \$104.8 billion annually to the state economy and consistently and proudly placing Wisconsin among the world's top agricultural exporters; and

*WHEREAS*; even during times of economic instability, increasingly difficult and unpredictable weather, and worldwide events that underscore the clear importance of a safe and dependable food supply, Wisconsin's farmers and agribusinesses have never stopped working to feed their communities, state, nation, and world; and

*WHEREAS*; farm workers face a high risk of workplace fatality and transportation accidents, including tractor overturns and roadway crashes, which were the largest cause of death in the agriculture industry in 2021, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and those who live and work on or near farms are encouraged to use caution and discretion when in proximity to agricultural transportation machinery for the safety of all involved; and

*WHEREAS*; adults and youth who work on farms also face unique occupational health problems and high levels of stress that can lead to short or long-term physical and mental health conditions, disability, and diseases, all of which require specialized medical knowledge and attention from health professionals who live and work in rural settings and among members of the farming community; and

*WHEREAS*; farms can be made safer through agricultural leadership and workplace safety education for farmers, agricultural workers, and family members, along with a commitment by farm operators to identify and eliminate hazards, the improved design of farm machinery, the use of personal protective equipment, and the engagement of those in farming communities who provide support, technical services, health care, and supplies; and

*WHEREAS*; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and numerous other dedicated advocates and organizations in reminding Wisconsinites of the vital importance of the safety and health of the farmers and all agricultural workers who serve the state and the nation;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 17 – 23, 2023, as

## WISCONSIN FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and caused the  
Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin  
to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in  
the City of Madison this 8th day  
of September 2023.

*Tony Evers*  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

*Sarah Godlewski*

SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State