



# KEEPING PLAYTIME SAFE

## SET UP A SAFE PLAY AREA:

- Create a dedicated play area to keep children away from hazards like traffic, water, farm equipment and animals.
- Play areas should be located where an adult can easily supervise.
- Have a variety of activities available for kids. A swing set, sandbox, sports gear and more can ensure they have hours of fun.
- Use a fence or a set of closely planted shrubs to keep kids from wandering out of the play area.
- Cover the ground with at least 12 inches of safety surfacing like mulch or wood chips to soften the impact of falls.
- Keep an eye out for any issues in the area, such as broken toys and equipment or sharp rocks.

## PROTECT KIDS WHILE THEY PLAY:

- Make water areas safer. Install a fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate that is at least 4 feet high around all 4 sides of pools or any bodies of water.
- Teach kids to ride safely with the right protective gear. Helmets are a must, whether you're riding a horse or a bike.
- During the winter, help kids find safe places to sled and skate. Also, make sure they're wearing a helmet during these activities.
- When skating, kids should have adults check the thickness of the ice on the pond or lake.

## SET LIMITS:

- Be sure children stay away from barns, silos and places where farm equipment or tools are stored. These are not safe places to play.
- The bed of a pickup truck is not a safe place to ride, even for a short ride. It is also not safe for kids to be passengers or extra riders on tractors, lawn mowers, ATVs, mopeds, and other farm vehicles.
- Make sure that your child is in a child safety seat, booster seat or seatbelt when riding in a car or truck, on the farm or out on the road.
- Often times, golf carts or utility carts are used to get around the farm, children should be at least 16 years old to drive and 6 years old to ride as a passenger on them.

## WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY:

- Make sure that you have access to a phone and clear directions to your location in your home, in the barn, and other facilities to help save time in an emergency.

### DOWNLOAD THE MAKE SAFE HAPPEN APP

Developed in partnership with the safety experts at Nationwide Children's Hospital, the app helps you make your home safer. Get room-by-room safety checklists, link to recommended products, and set reminders.



CONTENT DEVELOPED IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

