## MIFFLINBURG YOUNG FARMERS' ASSOCIATION

## Farmers + Funding + Emergency Management + First Responders = Great Safety Training

Special Thanks to:

Monsanto

Union County Emergency
Management Agency

Ard's Farm Market

**Perdue University** 

Lucas Criswell (Hopper)

Mifflinburg Fire Company

New Berlin Fire Company

Penns Creek Fire Company

Union Co West End Fire Company

And to ALL the members of Mifflinburg Young Farmers, who engage in the Motto...

A Young Farmer is ANYONE willing to Learn!

Public Relations Director
Michelle Dietrich
570-966-4223

## Training to be in the know...

What do Farmers and Emergency Management have in common? The ability to see the need for more education about farming and what is needed in the event of an emergency.

Through the cooperation and funding of the Mifflinburg Young Farmers' Association, Union County Emergency Management Agency and Monsanto, and in kind donations from Ard's Market and Lucas Criswell, this training was possible.

A local farmer, E. Jim Boop, nominated Mifflinburg Young Farmers Association to receive a community grant through Monsanto for \$ 2,500.00.

In turn, the Public Relations Director for Mifflinburg Young Farmers, Michelle Dietrich happens to be the Emergency Management Coordinator for Union County through monies in a program called Act 165 (Hazardous Materials Response Fund, which deals with confined spaces, toxic gases, etc, she was able to provide \$ 1,500.00 towards the program and through everyone working together the idea was born that it would be some kind of farm safety program.

This led us to Steve Wettschurack at Purdue University. Then President DJ Boop and Current President Jeremiah Zimmerman recalled seeing and talking with this gentleman at the National Farm Machinery Show and thought he would be a great instructor and key player to getting first responders to the training.

The training consisted of Classroom (1/2 day) and hands on (1/2 day). Classroom portions consisted of A pre-test on what is all ready known. There were five units in all to cover: Confined Spaces in Agriculture; Emergencies at Grain Storage and Handling Facilities; Preplanning, Training Rescue Equipment for the Emergencies; Emergency Response Strategies for Incidents at Grain Storage and Handling Facilities; Then the Post-Test and Hands- on experience.

Hands-on consisted of proper technique of cutting a V in the side of the grain bin so you had the ability to control the flow of grain out of the bin.

Utilization of the Rescue Tube, which aids in the extracting victims entrapped in grain and enhancing their probability of survival.

Safety Day, as we call it was held on June 28, 2014 at Ard's Market in Lewisburg, PA.

There were approximately 30 First Responders who took advantage of the training.



Classroom instruction to includes a pre-test and post-test on knowledge known and learned

Mifflinburg Hose Company then decided that the rescue tube was such a great asset that they chose to buy the tube.

Mifflinburg Young Farmers had enough funding to give Mifflinburg Hose Company a donation towards the purchase of the tube or to use towards another "Safety Day".

It was a day, where Farming, Emergency Management and First Responders not only came together to practice something that was long overdue, but to become part of the bigger farming picture, which is to understand that while we hope this never happens, we are better prepared when it does!

If you have any questions and need to get ahold of us, please call Steve Kline, Coordinator at 570-658-6592.

One thing to remember is to Always Keep Learning!!!!