



Fire Safety ALERT

RAM Mutual Insurance Company

P.O. Box 308 - Esko, MN 55733

Preventing Farm Equipment Fires

Don't get shut down by a fire during the busy harvest season!



Listed below are preventive maintenance guidelines that need to be done to prevent fires from occurring on motorized farm equipment.

- ◆ Remove any build-up of crop residue from around the engine, exhaust system, belts, and chains. Under extreme conditions, this may need to be done every few hours during operation.
- ◆ Repair damaged exhaust system components.
- ◆ Replace worn or badly frayed drive belts.
- ◆ Repair any loose or frayed electrical wiring and connectors.
- ◆ Replace worn or out of alignment moving parts and lubricate equipment as necessary.
- ◆ Check for signs of leaking fluids, oil, and fuel. Do not operate until repairs are made.
- ◆ Carry a 10-pound or larger dry-chemical fire extinguisher with you in the operator compartment.

Some tractor manufacturers offer retro-fit trash shields to prevent the accumulation of combustible crop residue around engine exhaust components. Check with your dealer concerning availability.



Crop residue accumulation around engine exhaust.

Fire Extinguishers

- All motorized farm equipment should contain an approved 10-pound ABC fire extinguisher.
- On equipment, place extinguishers in the operator compartment. Semi trucks and grain trucks should also have a fire extinguisher within easy reach of the driver.
- All fire extinguishers should be checked weekly to make certain they are properly charged. Extinguishers should also be removed from mounting brackets and turned upside down several times to prevent the powder from compacting.

