



Become a real “whistle blower”

The term “whistle blower” has become synonymous with a person who brings attention to something that is wrong or needs correction. The federal government has implemented whistle blower laws that even rewards people for reporting corruption and fraud in government. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has whistle blower provisions that protect workers for reporting unsafe workplaces.

Every farm and ranch need a few “whistle blowers” who are willing to speak up and point out unsafe conditions that have the potential of causing injury or property loss.

Procedure:

1. Provide each participant with an inexpensive whistle (This might become a little noisy if the group is large).
2. Identify a few examples of hazards commonly found on farms and have everyone blow their whistle. Examples might include:

- trying to move something too heavy alone
- a board with a protruding nail
- unlabeled containers of chemicals
- frayed extension cord
- not using eye protection
- using gasoline to start a fire
- not wearing a seat belt
- transporting gasoline in the passenger compartment of a vehicle

Materials Needed



Inexpensive whistle
(one for each
member of the
class)



List of hazards
commonly found on
farms (see example list
until procedure step
#2)

Point out that some people don’t have a high regard for whistle blowers because they point out problems that require time and money to correct. Letting others know that a hazard exists can, however, be the right decision that saves a life, prevents an injury, or reduces the risk of a fire or other loss.