



Farm Safety & Farm Stress

Paul Hugunin & Meg Moynihan

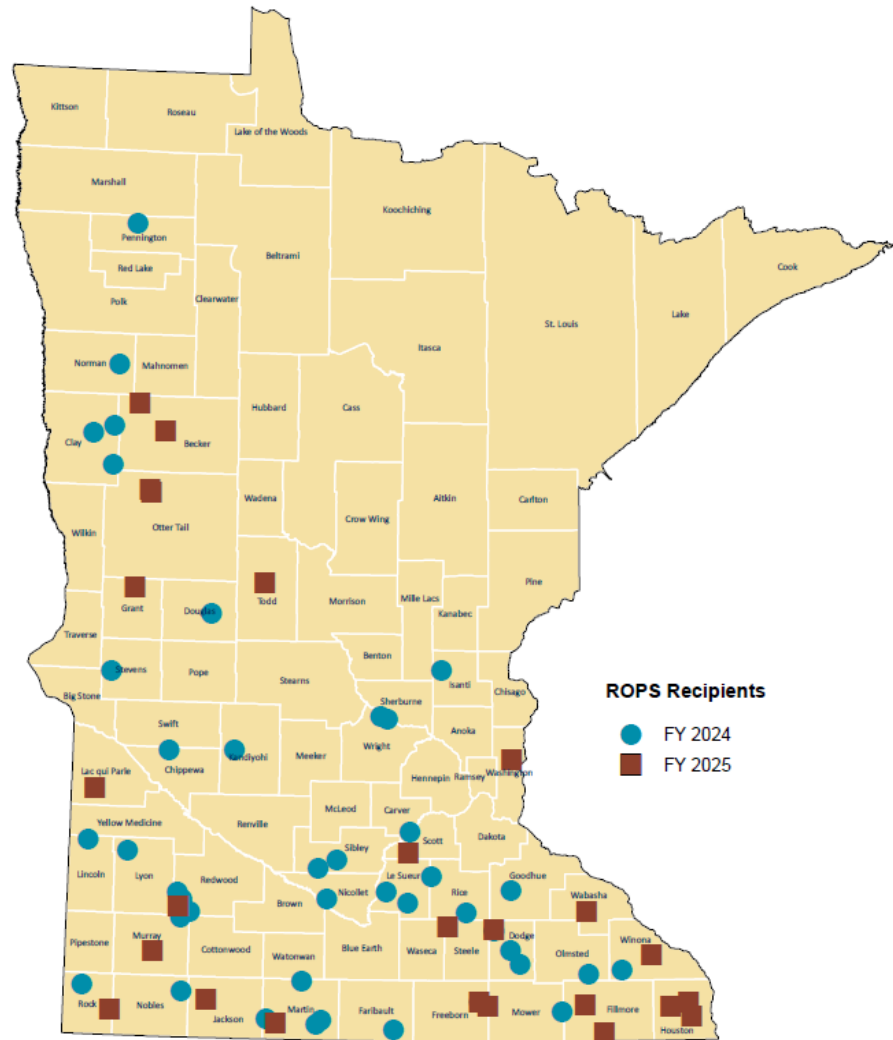
Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS) Rebate



Helps Minnesota farmers retrofit tractors built before 1987 with a certified rollover protection kit (rollbar and seatbelt)

- Covers 70% of cost
- Farmers pay maximum of \$500 per tractor

Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) Rebates by County
Fiscal Year 2024 & Fiscal Year 2025



Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) Rebates

FY 2024:

- 41 Installs, \$63,935
(Average cost \$1,559)

FY 2025:

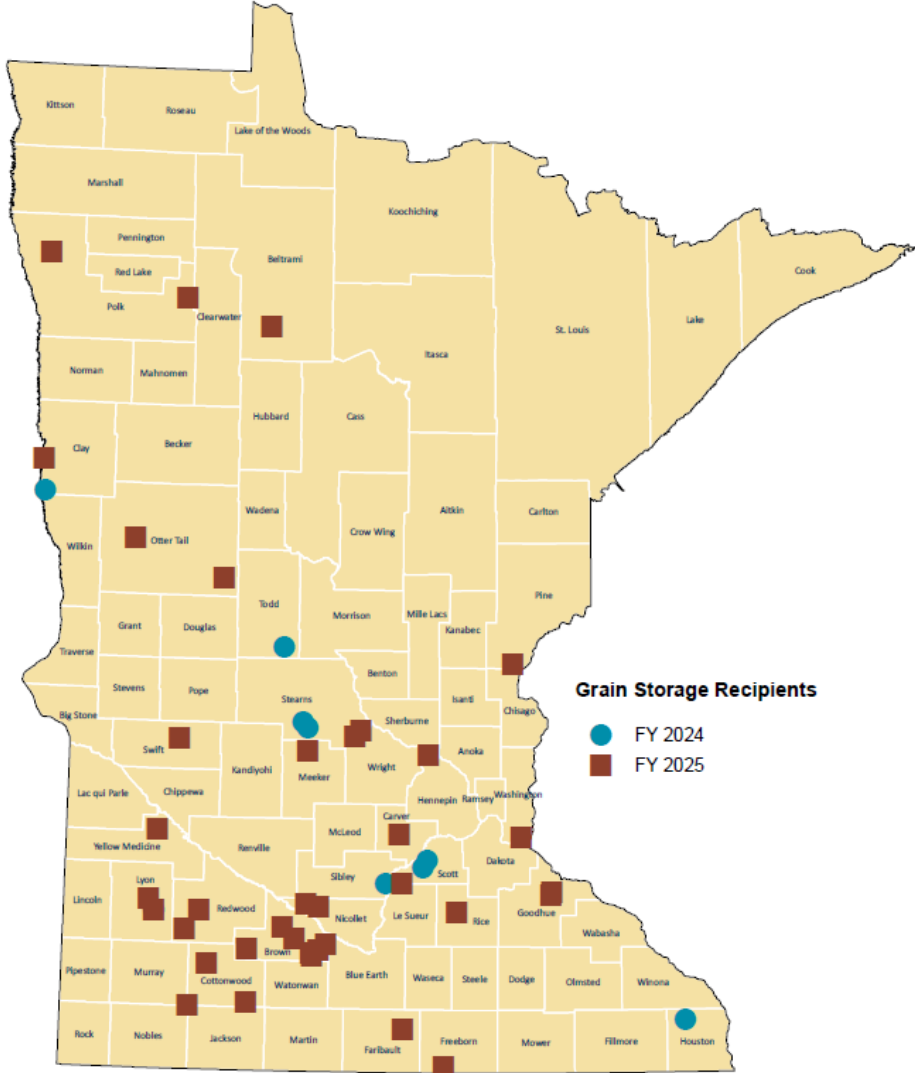
- 25 Installs, \$37,061
(Average cost \$1,482)

Grain Storage Facility Safety Grant

- Helps Minnesota farmers buy and install safety equipment for on-farm grain bins or silos
- Reimburses up to 75%
 - \$400 maximum per bin or silo
- What's eligible?
 - Fall protection systems, guardrail systems, equipment shields, and more



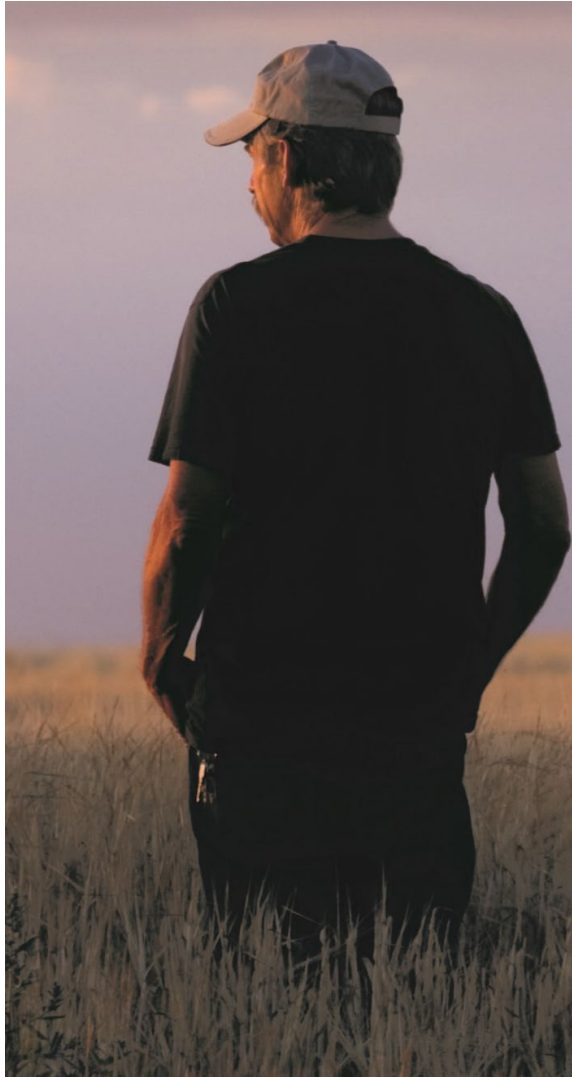
Grain Storage Facility Safety Grants by County
Fiscal Year 2024 & Fiscal Year 2025



Grain Storage Facility Safety Grants

- FY 2024:**
- 9 Farms – Total \$10,404
(Average per farm \$1,156)
- FY 2025:**
- 37 Farms – Total \$37,449
(Average per farm \$1,012)

Farm Stress and Farmer Mental Health



Key Assumptions

1. Different people need different things
2. Make help as normal and easy to find as possible
3. Lots already exists



- MN Corn Growers
- MN Department of Health
- MN Department of Veteran Affairs
- MN Farm Bureau
- MN Farmers Union
- MN FFA Foundation
- MN State Centers & FBM
- MSU- Mankato University – Center for Rural Behavioral Health
- MN Soybean Growers
- NAMI-MN
- North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education
- USDA – Farm Service Agency (MN)
- University of MN Extension

Legislative Funding is Essential

- Agricultural Mental Health Providers
- MN Farm & Rural Helpline
- MN Farm Advocates
- MN FarmLink, Transition/Succession
- Outreach & Promotion

YOU MATTER. TALK TO US.
No concern is too small.
MINNESOTA FARM & RURAL HELPLINE
833-600-2670
Text farmstress to 898211

Minnesota Farm Advocates

FARMERS HELPING FARMERS

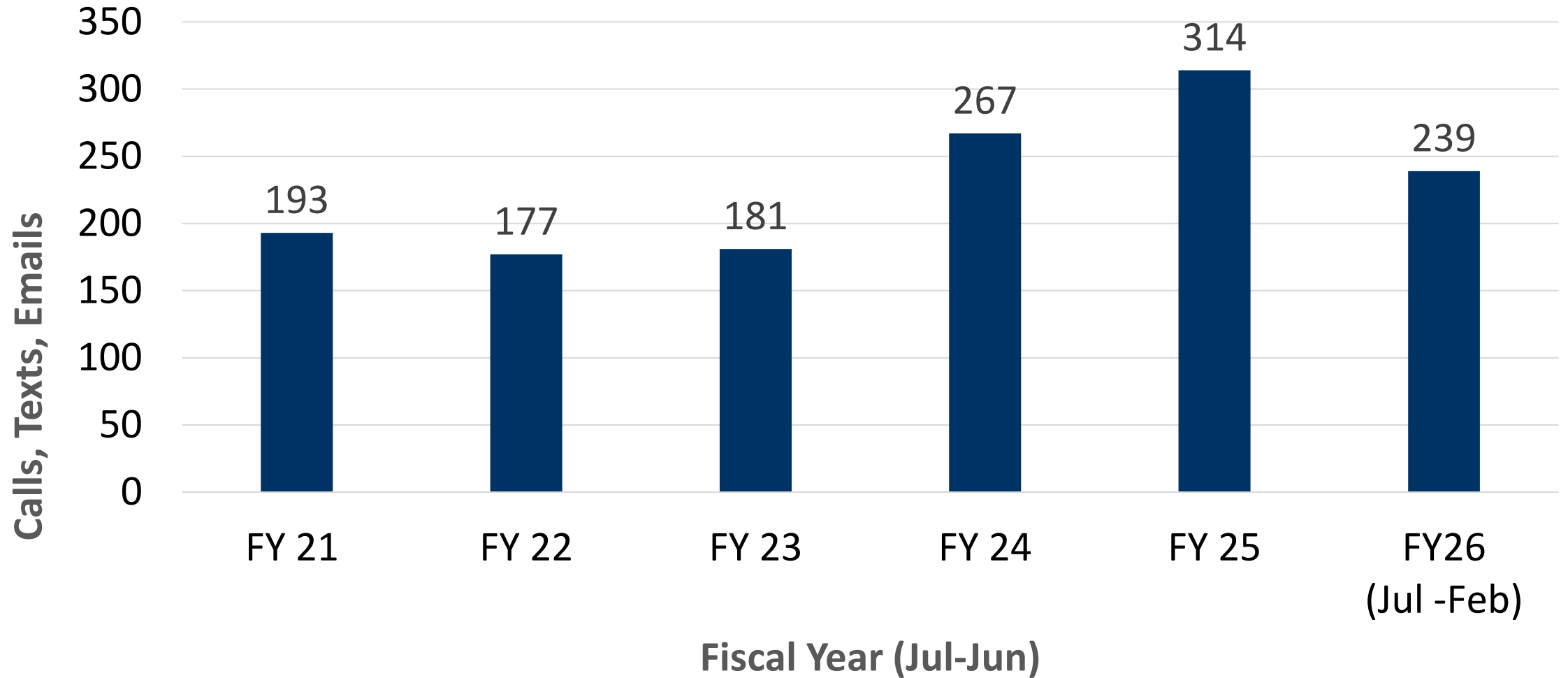


Minnesota Department of Agric... @MNagricu...

Farming takes strength, but even the strongest need support. This #MentalHealthAwarenessMonth, explore ways that you can flourish and bring more joy into your life: hfh.fas.harvard.edu/how-to-flourish

Visit: minnesotafarmstress.com for free, confidential help 24/7

MN Farm & Rural Helpline Activity



Outreach



Fan Mail for Farmers – State and County Fairs, Farm Aid 40



Farmfest

Promotion

COPING WITH
FARM & RURAL
STRESS
IN MINNESOTA

KEY POV HWM
QOOB LOO
& LIAJ TEB
HAUV MINNESOTA

LA QABSIGA
WALWALKA
BEERAHA
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www.mda.state.mn.us/farmstressorders



MN Farm Advocates

MN Farm Advocates

- Program started in 1984
 - Contract providers. No charge/fee to producers
- Provide confidential 1:1 assistance to Minnesota farmers who face crisis caused by **financial problems** or **natural disaster**
- Understand the needs of agricultural families and communities

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Agricultural lending practices | Crisis counseling referrals |
| Mediation | Disaster programs |
| Lender negotiation | Recognize the need for legal and/ or social services |
| Farm programs | |

12 Farm Advocates

1. Brigit Lozinski, Slayton
2. Bruce Lubitz, Perham
3. Dan Hunz, Waverly
4. RuthAnn Karty, Clarkfield
5. Steve Zenk, Danube
6. Wayne Pike, Rochester
7. Bob Stommies, St. Cloud
8. Jim Molenaar, Central MN
9. Laura Cullip, Hutchinson
10. Friendly Vang-Johnson, Minnetonka
11. Wayne Schoper, New Ulm
12. Ron Dvergsten, Thief River Falls



- 6,223 hours in FY25
- 4,126 hours FY26 - YTD
- Current client needs include:
 - Mediation
 - Bankruptcy
 - Farm transition/succession assistance
 - Help with financials to obtain farm operating loans



When Should You See a Farm Advocate?

When you...

- Are going into **mediation**
- Negotiate with **lenders**
- Are **liquidating** assets of the farm operation
- Need financial information
- Suffer a devastating **loss**, i.e., fire, disease or natural disaster
- Receive an **adverse decision** from a state or federal agency
- **Open accounts** have substantially increased over 12 months
- Have a **major drop in equity** over a period of 12 months
- Are entering into or dissolving a **partnership**
- Want to begin farming



Thank you!

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