



## 2018 Farm Safety & Compliance Events

In 2018, we hosted fifteen events across nine locations in five states. We had over 2,255 people attend the trainings of which 1,898 were workers/employees. Below is a video showcasing each of these great events.



## GAPC Certification Update

As of September 24, there are 557 growers that are GAPC Certified. Certification Audits are still occurring and will conclude by late October.

Reminders to those who are going through Certification and have recently had an audit conducted:

- Please send back the authorization letter found in the first page of your Certification Audit Report.
- Note that remediation of any non-compliance issues must be completed within 28 days of the date you received your Certification Audit Report.
- The self-assessment must be complete (100%) along with passing scores on the Certification Audit and attendance at GAP training to achieve Certification.

We appreciate the growers who participated in the inaugural year of the program and look forward to working with them and others in 2019.



NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH 2018



## September is National Preparedness Month Are You Prepared?

OSHA urges employers to be prepared to keep their workers safe during extreme weather events. View OSHA's [\*\*\*Emergency Preparedness and Response\*\*\*](#) page for information on how to prepare and train for emergencies and the hazards to be aware of when an emergency occurs.

For growers going through the GAP Connections Certification Program, having a written emergency plan

for your workers in case of medical emergencies, fires, or weather events is a critical standard. Growers can use the [\*\*\*Emergency Response Plan template\*\*\*](#) found in the GAPC Record Packet (Tab 9) to prepare for unexpected emergencies or disasters on their farming operation.

## Hurricane Florence: H-2A Provisions - Contract Impossibility

In the wake of Hurricane Florence, the U.S. Department of Labor- Wage and Hour Division (WHD) stands ready to assist Growers/H-2A Labor Contractor's (H-2ALC's) and workers affected by severe storms, floods, and other disasters with their labor law compliance needs.

We remind Growers/H-2ALCs that in the event of contract impossibility resulting from an Act of God, you may only terminate the work contract after receiving approval from the Chicago National Processing Center (NPC) Certifying Officer (CO). To obtain approval, please contact the NPC by email, fax, or regular mail. See instructions and Federal regulations [here](#).

## Human Resources and Legal Hotline for Growers

GAPC partnered with Littler Mendelson, attorneys at law, for the second year to provide growers with a comprehensive risk management hotline service carefully designed to help manage workforce employment issues and reduce exposure to employment related liability. This hotline is free to all GAPC grower members.

Growers can access the hotline by phone (866) 823-6333 or by email [LittlerHRhelp@littler.com](mailto:LittlerHRhelp@littler.com). When contacting the hotline, please be prepared to provide, your name, GAPC grower ID #, location, type of issue, phone and email (if available).



H-2A: The Ag Guestworker Visa Program - Trends and the Future (AgSafe) [Read More...](#)

U.S. Department of Labor Debars North Carolina Farm Labor Contractor for Wage and Worker Protection Violations; Assesses \$174,614 Penalty [Read More...](#)



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