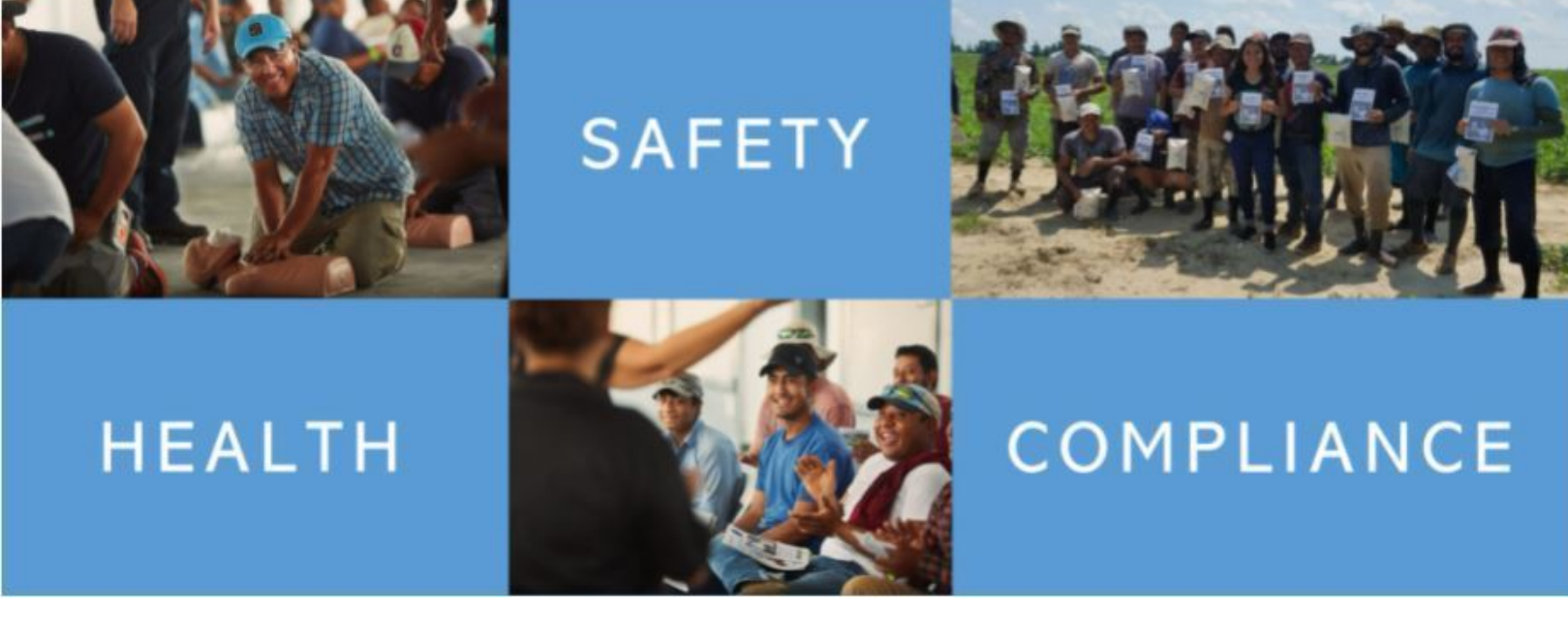




CONNECTIONS



SAFETY

HEALTH

COMPLIANCE

Farm Safety and Compliance Events are back in 2022! GAP Connections is excited to announce the return of the Farm Safety and Compliance Events. These free events offer a unique opportunity for growers and workers to rotate through interactive stations taught by content experts.

The events are open to all farmworkers including family. Workers will complete safety training on pesticide safety, equipment safety, GTS & heat illness, housing orientation, health & hygiene, basic CPR and First Aid.

Growers will have training on farm stress & mental health, Worker Protection Standards for handlers, and an introduction to the NEW Housing Orientation & Training Kit.

Training is free and provided in English and Spanish.

Dates and Locations:

- Tuesday, June 28 | Southern Piedmont Ag Research & Extension Center Cox Road Tobacco Laboratory, Blackstone, VA | 8:30a - 12:00p [Learn More](#).
- Thursday, June 30 | United Tobacco Company, Wilson NC | 8:30a - 12:00p and 2:00p - 5:30p [Learn More](#).
- Information about Kentucky event coming soon!

[Register](#)

Can't make it to the Farm Safety Event or looking for a customizable training for your workers?

GAPC offers on-farm training for individual farms and their workforce or for a group of farms and their collective workforce. Training is customized to the operation and is offered in both English and Spanish. Training topics are numerous and varied to offer a full and complete package for operations that may be looking for safety and compliance training to meet different requirements.

[View the Course Catalog](#)



Work with your neighbor to combine workers and split the cost of training. GAPC will train up to 50 workers in a group. Training is priced by the time spent on the farm with a minimum of 2-hours at a cost of \$400. After the initial 2-hours, training costs \$100 per hour.

| | Total Cost of Training | Number of Growers | Cost per Grower |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2-hours | \$400 | 2 | \$200 |
| | | 4 | \$100 |
| 3- hours | \$500 | 2 | \$250 |
| | | 4 | \$125 |
| 4- hours | \$600 | 2 | \$300 |
| | | 4 | \$150 |

Visit our [website](#) for more information about the Farmworker Training Program. Contact Francisca Rios, Farmworker Training and Program Coordinator, to schedule a training.

(865) 622-4606, Ext. 114 | frios@gapconnections.com



Reminders for Growers in the GAPC Certification Program

1. All growers listed on the application must complete Annual GAP Training by June 30. Training is not remediable after June 30, if training has not been completed, Certification will be denied.
2. The Self-Assessment is required to be completed by the time of the Monitoring Visit. It is one per operation.
3. The Monitoring Firm will contact you. Monitoring Firms will call 2-3 weeks before the visit to set up a time and date. Monitoring Visits will begin in late July. Any questions about scheduling or invoicing should go directly to the Monitoring Firm.

Don't Miss the Deadline for Annual GAP Training

Annual GAP Training must be completed for all growers by **June 30, 2022**.

If you are participating in the GAPC Certification Program Annual GAP Training is a required Critical Standard that is non-remediable. Growers in the Certification Program that do not complete Annual GAP Training risk being dropped from the Certification Application or denied 2022 Certification.

GAPC will not record any Annual Training for a grower after June 30, 2022.

Annual GAP Training Options

Contact your County Extension office to complete Annual GAP Training by viewing the recorded training video for your tobacco growing region.

Christian County Cooperative Extension Service offering Annual Training Cleanup Dates

Matt Futrell, Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent in Christian County, KY, will be offering two opportunities; Monday, June 27, at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, June 28, at 7 a.m., for Burley and Dark growers that need to complete Annual GAP Training. Growers must call and register to attend. Register by calling Matt Futrell at (270) 886-6328.

Need to check for your Annual GAP Training? Log in to your Grower Dashboard at www.gapconnections.com. Click on the Training Report link from the Training Section. GAPC provides Growers a list of all the training that GAPC has recorded for your Grower ID.

For more information or questions about training, please contact Amy Rochkes at (865) 622-4606, extension 107.

Sun Safety at Work

Sun exposure causes skin cancer, premature aging of the skin, and cataracts.

Cover up. Wear tightly-woven clothing that blocks out light.

Use sunscreen. Use a sunscreen that has a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15.

Wear a hat. A wide brim hat protects the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose, and scalp.

Wear UV-absorbent shades. Sunglasses should block UVA and UVB radiation.

Limit exposure. UV rays are most intense between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

osha.gov/heat



Water. Rest. Shade. Keeping Workers Safe in the Heat

Millions of U.S. workers are exposed to heat in their workplaces. Although illness from exposure to heat is preventable, every year, thousands become sick from occupational heat exposure, and some cases are fatal.

Most outdoor fatalities, 50% to 70%, occur in the first few days of working in warm or hot environments because the body needs to build a tolerance to the heat gradually over time. The process of building tolerance is called heat acclimatization. Lack of acclimatization represents a major risk factor for fatal outcomes.

Employers and workers should be educated on the dangers of working in the heat. Occupational risk factors for heat illness include heavy physical activity, warm or hot environmental conditions, lack of acclimatization, and wearing clothing that holds in body heat.

The safety message comes down to three key words: Water. Rest. Shade.

Under OSHA law, employers are responsible for providing workplaces free of known safety hazards. This includes protecting workers from extreme heat. An employer with workers exposed to high temperatures should establish a complete heat illness prevention program.

- Provide workers with water, rest, and shade.
- Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more frequent breaks as they acclimatize or build a tolerance for working in the heat.
- Plan for emergencies and train workers on prevention.
- Monitor workers for signs of illness.

Resources:

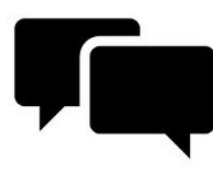
United States Department of Labor OSHA Publications – Heat Illness Prevention <https://www.osha.gov/publications/bytopic/heat-illness-prevention>

OSHA Heat Illness Prevention website <https://www.osha.gov/heat>

Videos:
Heat Illness Prevention (English) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipWmbc0d_Lc
Heat Illness Prevention (Spanish) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGVETtLeVqQ>

Smartphone App:

Heat Safety Tool – right on your phone <https://www.osha.gov/heat/heat-app>



TN Tobacco, Beef & More Field Day | Thursday, June 30 at 8:00am

The Tobacco, Beef & More field day is a free event at the Highland Rim AgResearch and Education Center in Springfield, Tennessee that brings together area beef and tobacco producers to learn more about current research in the field. Pesticide re-certification points are also available. Please check back [here](#) for additional details and registration information as this event date approaches.

South Carolina Tobacco Tour | July 12-13

The tour will kickoff with a reception and dinner at Hotel Florence on July 12th at 6:00 pm. The first stop of the tour will begin at 9:00 AM on July 13th in Loris, SC. We will have lunch at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center at noon and end in Sumter, SC at around 3:30 PM. A more detailed tour schedule will be sent at a later date to the email address provided when registering. [Learn more and register here.](#)

NC State Tobacco Field Day | Tuesday, July 26

The tour will begin at 9:00am and lasting till 12:00pm at the Cunningham Research Station, 200 Cunningham Rd, Kinston, NC 28501. Registration is [required](#).

US Department of Labor Issues 'Fair Recruitment Guidance' as part of multi-agency effort to promote ethical recruitment of temporary migrant workers

The U.S. Departments of Labor and State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development today issued ["Guidance on Fair Recruitment Practices for Temporary Migrant Workers,"](#) with principles and guidelines on preventing abuse of prospective workers.

The guidance is part of a multi-agency effort to promote best practices by those countries seeking to increase participation in the H-2A program for temporary agricultural workers and the H-2B program for seasonal non-agricultural workers, along with recruiters and employers who rely on these programs.

"This collaborative effort by the Departments of Labor and State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development will help protect prospective workers in the H-2A and H-2B programs from abuse," said Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. "The guidance announced today is intended to increase transparency and regulation of H-2A and H-2B worker recruitment programs and safeguard workers' fundamental rights." [Read more.](#)



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