

Safety training & certification session

Thurs. April 9, 2026

Public Events Building, UW Agricultural Research Station,
Arlington, Wis. *Presented by*



Agenda (subject to change)

9:00 a.m. | Registration and continental breakfast sponsored by:



9:45 a.m. | Welcome



U.S. CUSTOM HARVESTERS, INC.

10:00 a.m. | **General session and walk around**

Safety checks and maintenance: lighting, marking and walk around

Rodney Sherwood, owner, Integrity Testing Services LLC

Truck/trailer donated by Dean and Drew Manthe

10:45 a.m. | Coffee and snack break sponsored by: **sponsorship available!**

11:00 – 11:45 a.m. | Concurrent sessions

Session 1: Manure

Safety considerations with manure pumping

Isaac Lemmenes, product specialist, Nuhn Industries (confirmed)

Session 2: Forage harvesting

Safety considerations with forage harvesting + chopper walk-around

A hands-on forage harvester walk-around with stationed presenters at key points to share best practices on field operations, heat awareness, fire prevention, truck safety, and first aid. Speakers to be announced.

11:50 a.m. | **Lightning session**

How to make an effective 911 call from the field

Kaitlin Vesely, communication officer and 911 dispatcher, Chippewa County

12:10 p.m. | Lunch sponsored by: **KRONE**

12:50 p.m. | **General session**

"Handling emergencies in the field + basic first aid "what's in my kit"

Jeff Nelson, biological systems engineering, UW–Madison

1:30 p.m. | **Custom operator roundtable**

"Best approaches to managing risk: Safety tips from the crew"

Moderated by: John Osterhaus, Silver Streak Ag Services

Panelists:

- Seth Buxcel, BXL Inc.
- Jeremy Heim, Heim Brothers Custom
- Kathy Vander Kinter, Vander Kinter

2:15 | **Wrap-up and closing comments**

2:30 | **Adjourn**

Overview of the Program

Wisconsin Custom Operators and U.S. Custom Harvesters are hosting a safety and risk management training open to farmers, custom operators, and others interested in reducing incidents. The event counts toward WCO safety certification, which helps members stay current on safety regulations and best practices. Insurance companies value risk prevention activities. To certify a business, at least one representative must attend a full-day training session held twice a year. Continuing education credits are also available.