

Irrigation systems

installation and operation

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Re-entry standards are followed
- Work area has no hazards
- Child has no insect allergies
- Child wears long sleeved shirt, long pants, wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Break areas are provided away from the work site with bathrooms and water for drinking and washing hands
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour



Can your child do this job?

ABILITY

Can the child drive a tractor?
(See "Driving a Farm Tractor")

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to drive a tractor to do this job safely.

Do the irrigation pipes and tools the child will lift weight less than 10-15% of the child's body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children lifting more than 15% of their body weight are more likely to injure their backs.

Does the child have to carry the irrigation supplies less than 10-15 yards?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children carrying a load more than 10-15 yards are more likely to injure their backs.

Are the irrigation tools the right size for the child?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The wrong size tools can cause injury.

Can the child understand and repeat from memory a 20-step process?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who can't remember the steps to a job are more likely to be injured.

Can the child stay focused on a job up to 50 minutes?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children working beyond their attention span are easily distracted and more likely to be injured.

Can the child recognize a hazard and solve the problem without getting upset?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to recognize hazards, think about how to respond, and stay calm to prevent injury.

TRAINING

Has the child been trained on lifting techniques?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Lifting incorrectly can cause back injury.

Has the child been trained to use the irrigation tools?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Training is needed to prevent injury.

Has the child been trained on safe handling of chemicals?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult should handle the chemicals.

Has an adult demonstrated working with irrigation systems on site?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job at the work site.

Has the child shown he or she can do the job safely 4 to 5 times under close supervision?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult must watch constantly until the child shows he or she can do the job.

SUPERVISION

Can an adult supervise as recommended?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The right level of supervision is key to preventing injuries.

Supervision

What's the right amount? Here are suggestions—but remember, it depends on the child.

Age 14-15:
WATCH constantly at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **CHECK** every few minutes.

Age 16+:
CHECK every few minutes at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes.

Main Hazards



Slippery/uneven surface can lead to slips, trips and falls



Weight of pipes can strain muscles



Tools and pipes can cut and injure hands

Remember



Eye protection as needed



Non-skid shoes



Fluid-resistant gloves when flushing lines