

# LEICESTERSHIRE

## FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

 SAFER PEOPLE  
SAFER PLACES

# FARM SAFETY CHECK

Protect your farm from fire and crime



Leicestershire  
**Police**  
Rural Policing Team



**FCN**  
THE FARMING  
COMMUNITY  
NETWORK



## Introduction

Any fires or losses suffered by the rural community greatly affect farmers and their livelihood. They also affect the wider community, rural support agencies and the emergency services. The partners involved with this collaboration are Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, Leicestershire Police – Rural Policing Team, National Farmers Union and the Farming Community Network.

We are all committed to preventing losses through fire, arson and crime and we have produced this booklet as a guide to help protect farms. We can also offer a free Farm Safety Check, carried out by the Fire Service and the Police on your farm to help advise on how to prevent losses and stay safe.

**Please contact Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service on 0116 210 5555 or email on [info@leics-fire.gov.uk](mailto:info@leics-fire.gov.uk) to book a Farm Safety check.**

## Considerations for stacking bales:

- ✓ Stack away from ignition sources and potential fire hazards.
- ✓ If possible, leave space for tractors or forklifts to manoeuvre between stacks.
- ✓ Where possible, avoid stacking bales close to the perimeter of your site.
- ✓ Avoid stacking under or within 10m of power lines.
- ✓ Stack away from other farm buildings.

## In case of fire:



Call 999 immediately.



If possible, have someone at the entrance of the farm to meet the oncoming fire engines.



Provide the following information:

- Full address including postcode, if possible 'what 3 words' location (see page 6).
- Exactly what is involved in fire, or is stored in the affected area.
- Best access to the site for emergency vehicles.



If safe to do so, move any livestock in the area to a safe place.



Ensure there is a clear access to the site of the fire.



**Leicestershire  
Police**  
Rural Policing Team

Leicestershire Police has a rural policing team dedicated to tackling those issues which affect rural and farming communities. They are supported across the force by 18 specially trained wildlife crime officers; Heritage Watch volunteers and beat teams based in rural neighbourhoods.

## Your voice matters on rural crime

It is really important to report any suspicious activity, crime or information to ensure the right resources. You can do this in a number of ways:



For non-emergencies call **101**



In an emergency always call **999**



Report online at:  
**[www.leics.police.uk](http://www.leics.police.uk)**

## Crime prevention advice

You can find lots of advice on preventing rural crime on our website. Please contact us if you would like a visit from our crime prevention team who can come out and help you by giving advice on security and crime prevention at your farm, business and/or home.



### Lighting and CCTV

Install lighting (mains or solar) to light up when someone comes onto your land and/or property. Motion sensors are always best. Consider remote CCTV and infrared beams with audible alarms that will contact a mobile phone.



### Gates

Field gates should be locked with good quality padlocks, and hinges capped. Vulnerable gateways can be blocked with concrete boulders or tree stumps.



### Machinery

**ALWAYS** remove keys from tractors and quad bikes when not in use and try to store them out of sight in secure alarmed locations. Consider using trackers, immobilisers and CESAR registration. Think about ground anchors and clamps. Record details of the vehicles and take photographs.



### Poaching and wildlife crime

Hare coursing is illegal. Be alert to signs of coursers, larger cars with dogs, people with binoculars. Block gateways, dig ditches, close gates.

## Find rural locations easily with a 3 word address

///unit.pillow.culling  
BEDFORD, BEDFORDSHIRE

### /// WHAT3WORDS

This is a free app that can be installed on any smart phone/tablet and will give you a combination of three random words to denote the exact location of your device. This is invaluable in helping us locate incidents, especially in more rural areas.

what3words has given every 3m square a 3 word address. To help someone find a rural location, give them a 3 word address and they'll get there quickly and easily.



Download the free what3words app

 [w3w.co/iOS](https://www.what3words.com/iOS)

 [w3w.co/Android](https://www.what3words.com/Android)

 [w3w.co/map](https://www.what3words.com/map)

## Reducing the risk of arson

To reduce the risk of an arson attack, it may be prudent to put in some extra control measures at your site based on the answers to the questions below.

Signal crime	Yes	No
Do you have any issues with vandalism, fire setting or trespassing on or near your farm?		
Storage	Yes	No
Do you remove hay and straw from the field as soon as possible after harvesting?		
Is hay and straw stored away from other farm buildings, pesticides, fertilizers and machinery?		
Is hay and straw stored in reasonable size stacks and spaced out?		
Security	Yes	No
Are fuels stored in secure areas?		
Are fertilisers and pesticides stored in secure areas?		
Are all farm buildings locked and secure?		
Do you have security lighting?		
Are the farm buildings alarmed or have CCTV?		
Is all site rubbish cleared and disposed of regularly?		
Are all gates locked at night?		
Are there any security signs?		
Do you have the correct extinguishers in the right places?		
Do staff know how to use them?		
Do you have a contingency plan in place in the event of a fire or other unexpected event?		
Is farm machinery maintained and cleaned regularly?		

# Risks on your site

Please see the list below of questions we may ask in the event of a fire at your site:

**Is anybody unaccounted for?**

**Do you have high voltage electrics on site?  
Where are they located and where is the isolation point?**

**Where are the pesticides stored in relation to the fire?**

**Where is your fuel stored in relation to the fire?**

**Where is your farm machinery stored?**

**Are all animals/livestock in an area where they won't pose a risk to fire crews?**

**Is there any asbestos on site? e.g. old barn roofs.  
Do you have an asbestos register?**

**Are you aware of any open water in the area?**

**Do you store anything unusual for your business type?**

**Do you have any firearms or ammunition? If so, where are they located?**

Please use the box below to draw a plan of your site, showing locations of any hazards mentioned in this document (you may already have this as part of your Farm Assurance scheme).



**Key**

High Voltage electrics	<b>E</b>	Farm Machinery	<b>FM</b>
Fuel store (Petrol or Diesel)	<b>P/D</b>	Ammunition/Firearms	<b>FA</b>
Asbestos	<b>A</b>	Sleeping Accommodation	<b>SA</b>

# Are you really as tough as old boots?



Stress, anxiety, loneliness, bereavement, retirement, illness, family concerns, worries about the future...

We all experience these things at some stage in our lives.

**If you need to talk, we're here to listen.**

**Call 03000 111 999**

**Email [help@fcn.org.uk](mailto:help@fcn.org.uk)**

(Helpline open 7am-11pm, 365 days a year)

We are farming people and we are here to help.

**FCN**

**THE FARMING  
COMMUNITY  
NETWORK**

# Contact us

If you'd like a farm safety check please get in touch with Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service:



0116 210 5555



[info@leics-fire.gov.uk](mailto:info@leics-fire.gov.uk)

[leicsruralcrime@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:leicsruralcrime@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk)



[@LeicsFireRescue](https://twitter.com/LeicsFireRescue)

[@LeicsRuralCrime](https://twitter.com/LeicsRuralCrime)



Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service

Leicestershire & Rutland Rural Policing Team



Consider using WhatsApp Farm Watch groups to spread information between local people