

# **Operating a Tractor**

## Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- · Reach and operate controls while wearing a seatbelt
- · Strength to repeatedly operate controls
- Tall enough for good field of vision when seated on tractor
- Understand and consistently repeat a 10-step process
- Recognize a hazard, problem solve, and respond appropriately
- · React quickly to hazards
- · Mature enough to consistently do what is expected
- · Think through actions and consequences before acting
- · Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Comply with the working outdoors guideline
- · Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link



## **Adult Responsibilities**

- Ensure tractor is mechanically sound and safety features are in place, including ROPS
- Review <u>developmental guidelines</u> to verify youth's ability to operate tractor
- · Demonstrate how to safely drive tractor
- · Provide appropriate training
- · Educate youth to mount tractor using 3 points of contact
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Ensure youth does not operate tractor after dark/in bad weather
- Train youth to call an adult if equipment malfunctions

## Supervision

Note: Ensure tractor is sized appropriately for youth. Youth must be 16+ years to drive an articulated tractor. See <u>Tractor</u> <u>Operations Chart</u> for guidance.

14-15 yrs Intermittent supervision progressing to

periodic

**16+ yrs** Periodic supervision

### **Hazards**



High speed





Rollover



Run-over



Collision with objects

## **Protective Strategies**











Seatbelt

Non-skid shoes

Operator's manual

Hearing protection (if needed)

Respiratory protection (if needed)

