

Working with Irrigation Systems

Can youth do this job safely?

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

- · Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- If operating ATV, tractor or other equipment, comply with appropriate guideline(s)
- 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
- · Attention span long enough to complete work
- Bend and lift objects safely, using proper technique
- · Carry the load the required distance without straining
- Understand how to lift and maneuver awkward objects
- · Switch arms when doing repetitive tasks
- · Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- · Maintain two-way communication link
- · Change clothing and wash hands after completing job



Adult Responsibilities

- · Comply with the working outdoors guideline
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- · Provide tools sized appropriately for youth, if available
- Ensure equipment is mechanically sound with safety features in place, and demonstrate proper use
- · Check for overhead and underground electrical wires
- · Provide frequent stretch breaks
- · Demonstrate how to safely work with irrigation equipment
- Provide appropriate training
- Train youth to call an adult if equipment malfunctions

Supervision

14-15 yrs Nearly constant supervision progressing to

intermittent

16+ yrs Intermittent supervision progressing to

periodic

Hazards



Electricity



Repetitive



Sharp edges or objects



Pinch or crush point



Chemicals

Protective Strategies



Non-skid

shoes



Gloves



Eye protection (if needed)



Operator's manual



Handwashing

