



COCHRAN COUNTY EARNS PRESTIGIOUS GOLD STAR SAFETY AWARD

Cochran County has earned a 2013 Gold Star Safety Award from the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) for its record of excellence in involvement and commitment to safety in the workplace, as well as for controlling workers' compensation claims.

Only nine Texas counties received the 2013 Gold Star Award, which is reserved for counties with the highest degree of safety commitment and success. TAC presented the awards May 1 during a ceremony at its County Management Institute in Austin.

Cochran County is one of approximately 300 governmental entities that collectively self-insure their workers' compensation through the TAC Risk Management Pool. The Association awards the prestigious Gold Star Award to only those Pool members that have demonstrated actions and implemented procedures recognized as proactive in total risk management.

TAC risk control consultants evaluate county safety programs and work with counties to develop risk control and safety initiatives. When they begin the selection process for the annual Safety Awards, they consider the following criteria:

- Specific safety program elements;
- Activity and success of program in the 2013 calendar year;
- Support for the program by upper management, a governing board or a commission that directs the operations of the entity;
- Recent loss history;
- Improvement in the safety program; and
- Implementation of safety award criteria.