

# Tips for Farmers

## **SHARE THE ROAD SAFELY** with motorists.

She is going to work. He is dropping the kids off at school. He is making deliveries for his company. They are traveling to visit family.

*Do everything possible to alert motorists to the presence of your farm equipment and slow travel speed.*

- ▶ Plan travel to avoid rush hours, bad weather, the busiest roads, and the time before daylight and after dark.
- ▶ Be obvious to motorists by proper use of reflective Slow Moving Vehicle emblems on any implement of husbandry operated on public roadways. It's the law!
- ▶ Use reflective marking tape and reflectors at the extremities of equipment.
- ▶ Turn on hazard lights mounted on farm equipment and turn off field work lights for all roadway travel.
- ▶ Install mirrors that are wide enough for you to see what is following you.
- ▶ Always use turn signals to indicate plans to turn into fields or driveways.
- ▶ Be aware of traffic—oncoming, in front of you, and behind you.
- ▶ If road and shoulder conditions are safe, pull over temporarily to allow traffic to pass.
- ▶ Slow down on turns and curves. Check the traffic behind you.
- ▶ Minimize the width of equipment as much as possible. You may not interfere with traffic in an adjoining lane.
- ▶ When practical, truck larger equipment to the next location.

A project of the Illinois Farm Bureau®  
"Quality of Life" Action Team



# Tips for Motorists



**SHARE THE ROAD SAFELY** with farm equipment. He is moving the planter to the next field. She is hauling corn to the grain elevator. Farm equipment travels at a slow rate of speed and may be wider than other vehicles. If road and shoulder conditions are safe, the farmer may try to pull over to let you pass safely.

*Above all, slow down and be patient.*

- ▶ Reduce speed when encountering farm equipment on public roads. Flashing amber lights mean "caution."
- ▶ Slow down when you see the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem—the orange and red reflective triangle warns you that the tractor or combine travels at a slow rate of speed.
- ▶ Keep a safe distance from the farm equipment so the farmer can see you. If you can't see his mirrors, he can't see you.
- ▶ Pass wide, large farm equipment only if you know conditions are safe and you are sure the farmer will not be making a left-hand turn. Be cautious when pulling back in.
- ▶ It is illegal to pass in a no passing lane or within 100 feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, or bridge.
- ▶ Be prepared to yield to wide equipment.
- ▶ Always wear a safety belt and heed the road's speed limit.
- ▶ Watch for the farmer's indication of a turn. Newer equipment has one or more amber lights flashing rapidly to indicate a turn. Older equipment is typically not equipped with turn signals so watch for the farmer's hand signals.

Endorsed by  **JESSE WHITE**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Illinois Sheriff's Association

Illinois High School & College  
Driver Education Association, Inc.