

Talk Led By: _____

Date: _____

Site/Location: _____

Time: _____

Weather Report/Conditions:

_____ High: _____ °C Wind Speed: _____ km/hr
_____ Low: _____ °C Wind Gusts: _____ km/hr

Farm Equipment on Public Roads

Hazards of farm equipment on public roads include:

- **Narrow roads and/or soft road shoulders** make travel difficult, and even dangerous, for large equipment.
- **Winding roads and blind spots**, combined with the differences in speed of travel between farm equipment and motorists, can result in a collision.
- **Dirty/dust covered lights** make it hard for the operator to see and be seen by other motorists.
- **Dirty/dust covered signage** (e.g., slow moving vehicle sign) and reflective markings make it hard for motorists to see you or judge the size of your equipment when attempting to pass.
- **Differences in the speed of travel between farm equipment and motorists** make it difficult for motorists to accurately assess their rate of approach and can result in a rear-end collision.
- **Farm equipment that is too wide to fit in one lane** may get clipped or hit head on by motorists.

What can be done:

- Follow the regulations around lighting and signage; ensure you have a slow-moving vehicle (SMV) sign on your equipment.
- Ensure that the SMV sign and other retroreflective stickers are in good condition, not faded, properly mounted and clean.
- Retroreflective tape and reflectors are recommended in dark or dim conditions; in Canada, this material should be red and white stripes on the back of the equipment and yellow reflective material on the front. In dark or dim conditions, these markings will reflect the light from the approaching motorists' headlights back at them, not only alerting them to the presence of the equipment but helping them assess the size/width of the equipment as well.
- Work planning should include avoiding busy roads whenever possible.
- Where possible, move equipment in daylight during periods of low traffic.
- Consider the use of pilot vehicles and placing signage on the road to warn motorists of your equipment.

For more detailed information on requirements and best practices while operating farm equipment on public roadways, refer to the Alberta Government's [Safe Transportation of Farm Equipment in Alberta](#).



Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) Signs¹ Must Be:

- In good condition, not faded, and clean
- Mounted on the rear of the tractor or implement being towed
- Properly mounted and clearly visible
- Used on equipment travelling less than 40 km/hr

