

Neb. State Patrol Harvest Safety Tips

(Lincoln, Neb.)- As harvest season gets under way, the Nebraska State Patrol encourages all motorists to exercise caution and increase awareness when traveling on rural roads and highways.

“It’s the time of year when we’re bound to see an increase in agricultural equipment on state roadways,” said Colonel Bradley Rice, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. “We want motorists to be aware of and utilize caution when approaching, following or passing farm vehicles.”

Combines, grain carts tractors, and other agricultural implements typically travel at slower speeds. Due to their dimensions and loads, operator visibility is often reduced. Drivers are also reminded to watch out for wildlife often shifting locations due to the increase in activity.

Operators of agricultural implements may travel on the shoulder of the roadway when available and should display Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) warning triangles and utilize their flashing yellow caution lights whenever they are on the road.

When turning left from a roadway into a field or farm entrance, operators are cautioned to be aware of vehicles attempting to pass them. If an occupant restraint system is available in the implement they are driving, operators are encouraged to buckle up.

Motorists are also urged to utilize caution when driving at dawn and dusk as sun glare can cause reduced visibility.

Colonel Rice said, “Roadway safety is a shared responsibility. Let’s all do our part to have a safe harvest season.”

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