

**The Extension Cord**  
*“Connecting K-State to the Community”*  
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**Let’s Be Careful Out There!**

Harvest is a busy time for most farm operations and harvest season is here. With it comes slow-moving vehicles and equipment on all roads in the county. Drivers should be aware of slow-moving farm equipment using those roads during harvest season. You need to have patience and drive safely around slow-moving vehicles this harvest season.

By law, farm equipment must have the nationally designated slow-moving vehicle sign, a red triangle-shaped reflector, to warn oncoming drivers that their equipment is on the road. These vehicles often travel at speeds no higher than 25 mph.

The following tips will help ensure the safety of motorists, passengers, and operators of slow-moving equipment:

- Farmers on roadways are going to or from work, just like many other people on the road.
- Most farmers will pull over when they are able to let you pass, but it may take time for them to get to a safe place to do so. Be patient.
- Farm equipment is wide, sometimes taking up most of the roadway. Be careful when passing.
- The red triangle on the back of an implement, farm machinery or other vehicle indicates a slow-moving vehicle (under 25 mph).
- If you’re driving 55 mph and come upon a tractor that’s moving 15 mph, it only takes five seconds to close a gap the length of a football field between you and the tractor.
- Do not try to pass a slow moving vehicle on the left without ensuring that the vehicle is not planning a left turn. It may appear that the driver is pulling over for you to pass when it is actually preparing to turn. You will drive right into its path, endangering yourself and the farmer.
- Do not pass if you are in a designated “No Passing Zone” or within 100 feet of any intersection, railroad grade crossing, bridge, elevation structure, or tunnel.
- Do not assume that a farm vehicle that pulls to the right side of the road is going to turn right or is letting you pass. Due to the size of some farm implements, the farmer must execute wide left-hand turns. If you are unsure, check the operator’s hand signals and check the left side of the road for gates, driveways or any place a farm vehicle may turn.

We encourage the public to follow these tips so that we can all have a **“Safe and Accident-Free Harvest”**.