



**Wright County
Highway Department**

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NEWS RELEASE

Extra Caution Needed On Roadways During Harvest Season

The Wright County Highway Department would like to remind Wright County citizens to use extra caution on county highways now that farmers are in the fields harvesting and using the roadways to transport crops and equipment from the fields to grain elevators, markets, and to storage facilities.

Farm-related truck traffic increases significantly during the harvest season, both in volume and in the number of hours on the road. Motorists are urged to watch for tractors pulling wagons at slow speeds, as well as plows, harvesters and other wide equipment that may go over the center line (due to vehicles taking wide turns because of their size). The leading contributing crash factors in farm vehicle crashes are inattention, speeding, and unsafe passing.

Motorists should also watch for fallen debris from farm-related vehicles and remember that it is safer to brake or drive through the debris rather than veer into oncoming traffic or off the road. Farm-related traffic is encouraged to clean up immediately any excess mud that they track onto the roads.

Please be alert and prepared for slow-moving farm vehicles, especially on rural, two-lane highways. Motorists need to give them extra space and use caution when attempting to pass.

Drivers are urged to:

- Use safety belts.
- Drive with headlights on at all times.
- Observe posted speed limits and traffic signs.
- Watch for excess mud tracked onto the roads and debris dropped by trucks.

If you have any questions please call 763-682-7383 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday.

We thank you in advance for your safe and hands-free driving!