

Environment aware:

Sharing the road with agricultural equipment

Use this guide to help lead a discussion with employees about sharing the road with agricultural equipment. Empower them with strategies to minimize risks and become safer drivers. Use the form on Page 2 to record meeting details.

Drivers in rural areas may come across ag equipment during their travels. It's essential to provide them with clear instructions on how to safely operate their vehicles on rural roads where ag equipment is present. Following these guidelines can help prevent avoidable accidents.

1 Be alert and prepared:

- During Spring, Summer, and Fall, drivers may encounter ag equipment moving at slower speeds (around 25 mph) on rural roads
- Drivers should be patient and prepared to slow down when encountering such equipment
- Remember that this equipment typically doesn't travel long distances, so any slowdown is likely temporary.

2 Maintain a safe distance:

- Drivers must keep a safe distance between their vehicle and ag equipment.
- This ensures better visibility for both the equipment operator and our driver.
- Some ag equipment lacks stop or brake lights, so maintaining a safe distance is crucial to avoiding rear-end accidents.

3 Understand wide turns:

- Large ag equipment, especially when towing plows, planters, or other large attachments, may need to make wider turns.
- Drivers should avoid misinterpreting the equipment's movement as pulling over to allow traffic to pass.

4 Visibility challenges:

- Both drivers and ag equipment operators may have impaired visibility.
- Some ag equipment obstructs views of oncoming traffic due to its size.
- Drivers should be aware that some equipment lacks mirrors and has blind spots.
- When encountering equipment with escort vehicle(s), avoid cutting between them. Pass only when you can safely pass both.

5 Follow the law:

- Do not pass ag equipment in No Passing Zones, even if it's moving slowly.
- No Passing Zones exist due to limited sight distance and potential hidden traffic.
- Ignore prompts from equipment operators waving you around; pass only when safe.

For additional information related to driver safety, visit MyNSightOnline.com/DriveThe5

For further information, refer to the Federal Highway Administration Agricultural Equipment on Public Roads (highways.dot.gov/safety/data-analysis-tools/rsdp/rsdp-tools/agricultural-equipment-public-roads).



For assistance with risk management services or safety resources, contact us at RMSolutions@nationwide.com or 1-800-260-1356.

NationwideAgribusiness.com

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Toolbox Talk

Date: ____/____/____

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Discussion notes:
