

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Sheriff reminds drivers to be alert for farm equipment on roadways during this harvest season

Kankakee, IL - Kankakee County Sheriff Tim Bukowski issued a press release today reminding drivers to be alert for slow moving farm equipment on county roadways. "We have observed our local farmers harvesting in the fields in many areas of the county," said Bukowski. Bukowski cautioned drivers to be prepared for farm tractors, combines, farm trucks and other farm equipment that will be using area roads during this harvesting season.

Slow down as soon as you spot a piece of farm equipment. Farm equipment may appear to be moving faster or slower than it actually is. It is a good practice that if you see something ahead that is does not look like a car nor truck, slow down--at least until you have identified the object.

Watch for the triangular Slow-moving-Vehicle (SMV) sign. When you see one, slow down. Also please only use SMV signs on slow moving vehicles, not to mark driveways or for other non-vehicular uses.

Watch for flashing amber lights. This type of light often marks the far right and left of farm equipment.

Do not expect equipment to run partly on the road shoulders. Driving with one set of wheels on the pavement and one set on loose-surfaced shoulders substantially increases the risk of overturn or other accident. Additionally mail boxes and a sloped road shoulder poses other hazards to the farm machinery driver.

Sheriff Bukowski reminds area drivers that agriculture is still a major factor in the areas economy. Operators of farm equipment are entitled to use area roadways by law and other drivers must be prepared to accommodate that usage. Bukowski advised motorists that radar units will again be deployed on township and county roads during this harvesting season in an effort to protect the agricultural community.

