

## **Farm Equipment Motor Vehicle Roadway Safety Workgroup Recommendations**

Workgroups were asked to consider five questions. Cumulative responses to the questions are as follows:

1. The most important concerns related to/factors contributing to farm equipment/motor vehicle incidents are \_\_\_\_\_ ? (Pick the top three)
  - Speed
  - Impatience/road rage
  - Inattentiveness
  - Visibility/misjudging circumstances
  - Education
    - Recognition of slow moving vehicle emblem; education for general public
    - Inclusion of farm equipment motor vehicle safety in Drivers Education curriculum, especially for young drivers
    - Farmer education on transport safety
    - Education for farmworkers
  - Lighting & Signage/Visibility
    - Making farm equipment visible
    - Use of escort vehicles
    - Law enforcement support
  - Possible need for legislative revisions
    - SMV
    - Lighting/signage
  - Increased population
  
2. If these are the three most important concerns/factors, what can your group do to improve farm equipment/motor vehicle roadway safety?
  - Implement 'Be Seen –Be Safe' program in all NC counties (seek grant funding for large portion of cost; work through county Farm Bureaus to implement)
  - Educate/increase awareness for:
    - Farm communities
    - Farm level – educate farmers regarding lighting and marking
    - Schools – teach agriculture related transportation issues in drivers education classes
    - Senior groups
    - Civic groups
  - Public service announcements (PSA's)/local media
  - Use of escort vehicles(for oversized vehicles and left turns)
  - More farm equipment signs on rural roads
  - Add SMV to drivers education, drivers license test, and drivers license handbook
  - Advocate for SMV to be required by law
  - Proper lighting and safety equipment
  
3. What specific activities/steps will your group take to accomplish this?
  - Develop farm equipment/motor vehicle campaign ('click it or ticket type program)
  - 'Whoa Down' program – rules of road sharing
  - Expand 'Be Seen-Be Safe' across NC Cooperative Extension

- Buckle Up or Eat Glass (Farm Safety 4 Just Kids)s
- Inexperienced driver training - 'new drivers'; 'new farmers'
  - Billboards
  - PSA's
- Display and handouts for community groups
- 'Farmer as your neighbor' campaign
- State Highway Patrol, 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Cooperative Extension, NC Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Women's Group, migrant education program, NC Farmworker Health Program, Department of Labor, Department of Insurance, NC Agromedicine Institute, legislators, and other organizations collaborate to address farm equipment/motor vehicle roadway safety issues.
- Provide safety classes & lighting and marking (mirrors, strobe, etc) for farmers; promote use and availability of safety equipment to farmers
- Provide training for equipment manufacturers, local associations, and Cooperative Extension
- Develop educational materials or expand existing programs; market programs
- Seek funding from Governor's Highway Safety Program
- HOSTA tractor certification training programs – expand beyond 15-16 year olds to all farmworkers including family and hired workers
- Advocate for SMV sign to be required in vehicle law and drivers education
- Advocate for drivers license exam to include SMV and hand signal information

4. What will your group do to determine whether the activities/steps taken have been effective in improving farm equipment/motor vehicle safety?

- # of crashes decreased
- Check statistics and follow-up as needed
- Number of participant activities
- SMV emblem implementation
- Local participation survey (informal)

5. Who else should be involved in addressing farm equipment/motor vehicle safety that is not present today?

- More farmers
- Drivers education folks
- Equipment dealers