

Richardson County Sheriff Urges Caution During Harvest Season

(KLZA) -- With the harvest season underway Richardson County Sheriff Randy Houser reminds everyone to share roads safely. The volume of farm equipment and grain trucks on the roads is greatly increased at this time of the year.

Motorists need to be aware that combine operators don't have good visibility behind them on highways, so they may not be aware of vehicles following them. Also, heavily loaded grain trucks take longer to get up to highway speed, and need more stopping distance than smaller vehicles.

Many accidents between regular vehicles and farm equipment happen while regular vehicles are passing farm equipment, and the farm equipment operator makes a left turn. That is one good reason why passing in intersections is prohibited at all times. Drivers need to remember that there is quite a bit of farm machinery out there without turn signals.

The Sheriff's Office also encourages farm equipment operators to use all of their flashing lights when moving on the roads, especially when they are on the highways. If everyone will exercise patience and caution, we can have a safer harvest season.

Many Signals Communications