

# Work Zone & Farm Equipment Awareness

With the last of the snowfall (hopefully), Iowa's Department of Transportation (DOT) is reminding drivers that road construction and farm equipment are just around the corner, both figuratively and literally. The department is warning drivers to slow down and to be cautious.

April 6-10 is Work Zone Awareness Week, and DOT and the Department of Public Safety want to remind drivers

that fines for reckless driving double in work zones. While work zones are just beginning to show up, during peak construction season there will be more than 500 work zones on Iowa's roads. Please be alert for the orange cones, neon vests and signs telling drivers to slow down.

In 2008, DOT records show there was 200 crashes that involved farm equipment. As a result of those crashes, five

people lost their lives and there were fifteen major injuries.

Besides being alert, DOT is also asking drivers to be patient and to slow down as soon as you see the triangular-shaped slow-moving emblem. The department reminds farmers to use turn signals or appropriate hand signals when turning, and when safe, to pull over and let traffic pass.