



If you plan to drive farm equipment on a major freeway in North Carolina it must be an approved route.

Q: Why can't I drive my farm equipment on any road in North Carolina?

A: Farm equipment is allowed on any state system road except interstates and fully controlled access roads (freeways).

However, equipment is allowed on interstate and fully controlled access routes that have been evaluated and pre-approved by the N.C. Department of Transportation (G.S. §20-116), as long as it is escorted by a trailing escort vehicle with, at a minimum, its warning lights flashing.

Q: What is a fully controlled access road?

A: A road that is connected to other roads by ramps and bridges (interchanges).

Q: Can I drive farm equipment on a two lane road?

A: Yes, but you should drive safely and follow all applicable rules and regulations.

Q: How do I obtain a list of approved routes?

A: You can visit the following link to obtain a list of approved routes in North Carolina:

https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Teppi/Pages/Teppi-Topic.aspx?Topic_List=F28 or call (919) 814-5000 to request a copy.

Q: Why does a route have to be approved?

A: Since farm equipment is oversized and moves considerably slower than other traffic, it is important to protect not only the driver operating the farm equipment but also other motorists. This is why farm equipment needs a trailing escort vehicle with, at a minimum, its warning lights flashing.

Q: Who do I contact to get a route approved?

A: Please contact the N.C. Department of Transportation's Mobility and Safety Division at (919) 814-5000 for more information.

Q: What will happen if I drive on an unapproved route?

A: You could put others at risk and you could potentially be liable for any damages if an accident was to occur. This could also negatively impact your insurance. The penalty for driving on an unapproved route is a class 1 misdemeanor. In addition, law enforcement would be able to cite you for any additional violations.

Safety Tips

- * Travel at nonpeak travel times
- * Check equipment before leaving
- * Know your route, vehicle and equipment before you use it
- * Become familiar with laws
- * Watch out for other motorists
- * Always use warning flashers
- * Operate during daylight hours and good weather conditions.



(revised July 6, 2020)