Do you need a Slow Moving Vehicle emblem on your tractor or equipment?

△ Iowa law says “When operated on a highway at a speed of 35 mph or less, every farm tractor, tractor with towed equipment, self-propelled implement of husbandry, horse-drawn vehicle or any other vehicle principally designed for use off the highway shall be equipped with a SMV emblem visible from the rear of the slow-moving vehicle”.

Where should the SMV be located?

△ In addition to equipment, any towed wagons or other implements must be equipped with a SMV emblem that is clearly visible to the driver of a vehicle approaching from the rear
△ The emblem should be mounted on the rear of the vehicle and either centered or as near to the left of center of the vehicle or equipment as practical so that it is clearly visible
△ The SMV emblem may be permanently mounted or movable (mounted using the manufacturer’s specified socket and bracket or by other means that provide secure and rigid attachment)
△ Both permanent and movable SMV emblems should be mounted with the point of the triangle upward
△ Replace worn and faded decals to ensure that they remain reflective and fluorescent. The triangular shape should be readily identifiable both day and night

Is there ever a time that the SMV should be covered or removed?

△ If the slow-moving vehicle operates at speeds greater than 35 mph, such as when being towed, the SMV emblem must be removed or hidden from view.

What lighting is required on tractors or other self-propelled equipment?

△ All the following lights must be visible from 500 feet
  ○ At least one steady white headlamp
  ○ At least one steady red tail lamp
  ○ At least one flashing amber light

When is this lighting required?

△ From sunset to sunrise, and at other times when conditions such as fog, snow, sleet or rain provide insufficient lighting

Auto drivers CAN: Slow down and be patient
Farmers CAN: Be visible to other traffic with SMV emblems, reflective tape and adequate lighting
Everyone CAN: Be alert because we will meet