

STAYING SAFE ON DUFFERIN COUNTY ROADS

Dufferin has many rural roads and road networks that are navigated by users of all kinds, like drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, as well as horse-drawn carriages.

Home to a diverse population of citizens, Dufferin County has a longstanding history of Mennonites located throughout the community, but especially in the rural municipalities of Melancthon, Mulmur and Grand Valley. A certain community of Mennonites use the horse and buggy as a means of transportation on the many streets and rural roads throughout Dufferin.

We must all work together to keep horse-drawn carriage users safe.

There are many things to consider when prioritizing safety on County roads, including soft gravel shoulders, hidden intersections and driveways, sudden turns and curves, low lighting and the presence of wildlife.

These considerations apply to all road users.



KEEPING OUR ROADS SAFE FOR ALL USERS

No matter one's chosen mode of transportation, we all have a role to play in [sharing our roads](#) and ensuring all road users get to where they need to go safely.



SAFETY FOR HORSE- DRAWN CARRIAGE USERS

- Have an orange and red slow-moving sign on your carriage. The Province of Ontario requires that a horse-drawn carriage be equipped with an orange and red slow-moving sign.
- There are exemptions that exist. If you are exempt from using the above sign, you must have the back of the carriage outlined with reflective tape that is visible from at least 150 metres (approximately 500 feet).



- Use reflective equipment like horse blankets, headlights and tail lamps or tape . Always make horse and buggy vehicles as noticeable as possible, especially during conditions where there is limited visibility.
- Obey all traffic rules and laws. Review the Highway Traffic Act to understand all rules and regulations of the road, especially as they relate to slow-moving vehicles
- **If a horse-drawn carriage cannot fit entirely on the shoulder of a road, the operator must move the vehicle entirely into the road lane.**



By **sharing our roads** and prioritizing safety, we can all enjoy our travels in Dufferin County, and ensure our friends, family, loved ones and community members, including the local Mennonite communities using horse-drawn carriages, get where they need to go, **safely** .

SAFETY FOR VEHICULAR ROAD USERS

Everyone must ensure that they share the community's roads and prioritize safety for the entire Dufferin community, including those in horse-drawn carriages.

If operating a vehicle, when approaching a horse-drawn carriage, ensure that you:

- Slow down and maintain a safe distance. Providing a safe distance ensures that should anything fall off a buggy, like agricultural equipment or hay, you can react in a timely and safe way. Horse and buggies can also roll back a few feet after coming to a complete stop. Maintaining a safe distance helps reduce any accidents during such events.
- Approach and pass with caution. Only pass when it's safe and there is plenty of room to do so without startling the horse or its driver. Give plenty of space, especially if passing.
- Reduce any unnecessary speeding, engine revving and loud noises. Horses are sensitive to loud noises and quick movements. Do not spook or startle horses.
- Pull over and stop if you see a horse under distress or out of control. Stay in a safe location until safe to move.



Questions?

Contact Dufferin County Roads and Infrastructure at:
55 Zina Street, Orangeville, ON
L9W 1E5
or
519-941-2816 ext. 2600.