



**Mercer County Sheriff's Office**

**JEFF GREY**  
SHERIFF

125 W. Livingston Street  
Celina, OH 45822

Phone: (419) 586-7724

Fax: (419) 586-2234

[www.mercercountysheriff.org](http://www.mercercountysheriff.org)

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**MERCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Mercer County Sheriff Jeff Grey wishes to caution area farmers and community members regarding transportation and contact with anhydrous ammonia, as the Spring planting season rapidly approaches.

Personal exposure to anhydrous ammonia affects damp skin, eyes, mouth, nose and respiratory system by freezing and chemical burn. It is possible to suffocate within minutes in a cloud of product.

Sheriff Grey wants to emphasize these dangers in light of the upcoming farming activity and issues the following cautions to farmers transporting or applying anhydrous ammonia:

- \*A nurse tank is an SMV. **DO NOT exceed 25 mph.**
- \*Safety chains are required when pulling with a motor vehicle.
- \*If an accidental release of product happens:
  - \***DO NOT attempt to correct it yourself.**
  - \***Get upwind of the affected area.**
  - \***Keep others from entering the affected area.**
  - \***CALL 9-1-1 FIRST if others may be exposed, then call the product provider.**
- \*If a crash with anhydrous ammonia tanks is encountered, stop and observe for person activity or a cloud/fog in the air. A collapsed person could indicate a release of product is present. **DO NOT** drive into it. **DO NOT** approach. **DO NOT** remain downwind from it. **CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY.**

Sheriff Grey advises that deputies will be enforcing traffic laws related to transporting anhydrous ammonia along with other safety issues during the upcoming farm season. Sheriff Grey's goal is for everyone to have a safe and productive season.

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