

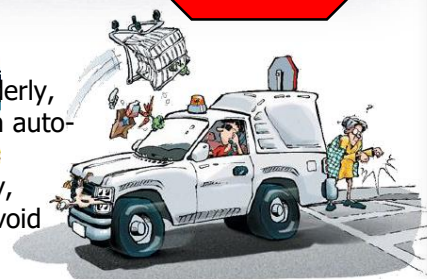
MCAGCC SAFETY GRAM

Take the Time to Cross Safely



Pedestrian Safety Tips

Drivers need to recognize the safety needs of pedestrians. Young, elderly, disabled, and intoxicated pedestrians are the most frequent victims in auto-pedestrian collisions. Generally, pedestrians have right-of-way at all intersections; however, regardless of rules of the road or right-of-way, drivers are obligated to exercise great care and extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians.



What can drivers do to safely share the road?

- ▶ **Look out for pedestrians.** Don't let yourself be distracted. You can encounter pedestrians anytime & anywhere. They can be very hard to see – especially in bad weather or at night.
- ▶ **Respect crosswalks.** When entering a crosswalk, drive slowly & be prepared to stop. Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn.
- ▶ **Always watch for children.** Children are the least predictable pedestrians & the most difficult to see. Take care to look for children not only in school zones, but in residential areas, playgrounds & parks.
- ▶ **Be extra cautious in school zones.** Where a warning flasher or flashers are blinking, you must stop to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk. Always stop when directed to do so by a school crossing guard.

What can a pedestrian do to prevent pedestrian accidents?

- ▶ **Walk on the sidewalk.** Stay on the sidewalk, when available & use crosswalks. Avoid walking where no sidewalks or crosswalks exist. When having to walk where there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
- ▶ **Walk defensively.** Be prepared for the unexpected. Don't let cars surprise you even if a motorist does something wrong like running a stop sign or red light, or making a sudden turn.
- ▶ **Cross streets at intersections.** Look in all directions before entering the street. Be especially alert to a vehicle turning right on a red signal. If there are marked crosswalks, use them but do not assume you are completely safe in a marked crosswalk and always look in both directions & ensure the intersection is clear.
- ▶ **Be careful in parking lots.** Pedestrians are supposed to have the right-of-way in parking lots but many drivers don't wait for pedestrians. Parking lots can be more hazardous than streets. On streets the direction of traffic is usually known but in parking lots vehicles might be moving in all directions, including backward.
- ▶ **Avoid dangerous moves.** Any movement a pedestrian makes that drivers are not expecting could be dangerous. When leaving a school bus, wait a second before crossing. Don't step into traffic from between parked cars since this is a sure way of surprising drivers.
- ▶ **Keep your view of traffic clear at all times.** A pedestrian needs to be able to see vehicles around them. Don't block your view with packages, umbrellas, cellphones, or any other objects.



Your Source for SAFETY Information |
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