

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

When drivers maintain safe speeds and practice other safe driving behaviors, safer walking environments are created for you, your loved ones and others in your community.

Everyone Is a Pedestrian: At some point in the day, everyone is a pedestrian. Unfortunately, pedestrian injuries and fatalities remain high. There were 7,314 pedestrians killed and more than 68,000 injured nationwide in 2023. Also, a pedestrian was killed every 72 minutes in traffic crashes in 2023.

Basic safety tips for drivers:

1. Look out for pedestrians everywhere and minimize blind spots.
2. Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.
3. Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
4. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop behind the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
5. Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing where you can't see.
6. Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
7. Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street, in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.
8. Be extra cautious when backing up and look for pedestrians.

Basic safety tips for walkers:

1. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
3. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
5. If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
6. Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.
7. Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.
8. Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation - get up, get out and get moving.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) demonstrates its dedication to promoting safe pedestrian and motorist behavior through their educational material, leadership and expertise to communities across America. They also conduct public awareness campaigns, such as **Everyone is a Pedestrian**, raising awareness of the dangers to pedestrians. Please join us in reducing traffic safety risks to pedestrians and promoting programs and countermeasures to save the lives of all road users on our nation's roadways. For more information on Pedestrian Safety click on: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>



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