

PEDESTRIAN
SAFETY





PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Safety

- Pedestrians are the most vulnerable of all road users; they are unprotected if hit by a vehicle.
- Nationally, 6,000 pedestrians are killed and 90,000 are injured every year.
- Approximately 4,000 pedestrians are injured and 197 pedestrians die every year in North Carolina after being hit by automobiles.
- Senior citizens (persons age 65 and over) comprise 12 percent of the population in North Carolina, but account for 16 percent of all pedestrian fatalities.
- Pedestrian injury is the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 5 to 14.
- In 1998-2000, vehicles on Charlotte streets struck more than 800 pedestrians. Of those accidents, more than 80 percent resulted in injuries and 37 pedestrians died.
- Research has shown that distraction, inattention and negligence on the part of pedestrians are the major causes of accidents.



Obey Pedestrian Signals

Where there are no pedestrian signals, obey traffic signal.

Avoid Dangerous Situations

Always cross at intersections or pedestrian crosswalks.



See and Be Seen

Before crossing a street, always make sure the motorist has seen you and will let you pass. These factors can adversely affect the motorist's vision:

- Sunlight
- Glare from the headlights of another vehicle
- Parked vehicles
- Rain and snow
- Darkness

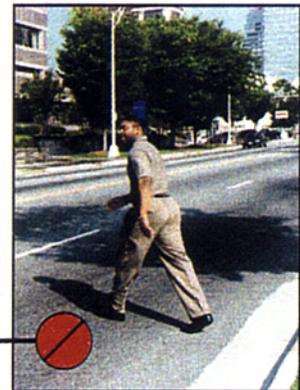
The visibility of all road users is diminished at night. Wear bright colors or accessories with reflective strips so you can be seen from a distance.



Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the road shoulder facing oncoming traffic.



If you must cross where there is no intersection or crosswalk, check both ends of the street for traffic and cross the road at a right angle.



Always look left, then right, then left again before crossing a street.



Pedestrians Must:

- Obey pedestrian signals and traffic lights.
- Cross at intersections or crosswalks.
- Yield the way to motorists when crossing a street with no nearby intersection or crosswalk.
- Use the sidewalk where there is one.



Motorists Must:

- Yield the way to pedestrians crossing on a white pedestrian signal or green traffic light.
- Yield the way to pedestrians after making a stop or turn.
- Yield the way to pedestrians when entering or exiting a driveway.
- Yield the way to pedestrians in a crosswalk.
- Be aware of children crossing in school zone crosswalks.
- Obey the 25 MPH speed limit in school zones.