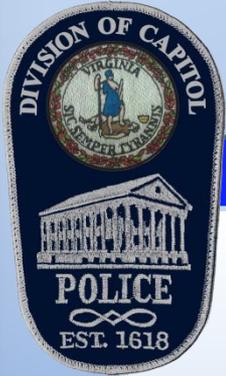


Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

Sharing the Road



Presented by:

Division of Capitol Police

Crime Prevention
www.dcp.virginia.gov

A graphic for a crime prevention campaign. It features the words "Crime Prevention" in large, bold, red letters. A magnifying glass is positioned over the word "Crime", with a fingerprint visible in the lens. Below the main text, the words "12 MONTHS OF AWARENESS" and "CAMPAIGN" are written in blue, slanted text. A small logo of the Division of Capitol Police is located in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

Crime Prevention

12 MONTHS OF AWARENESS
CAMPAIGN

The logo of the Division of Capitol Police, featuring a circular seal with the text "DIVISION OF CAPITOL POLICE" and "EST. 1618". The seal also contains the Virginia state seal and the text "POLICE" and "EST. 1618".

Sharing the Road



- **Motorists**
- **Public Transportation**
- **Emergency Vehicles**
- **Pedestrians**
- **Bicycles**

Facts

In two-vehicle crashes, 74 percent of the motorcycles involved in motor vehicle traffic crashes were frontal collisions. Only 6 percent were struck in the rear.

In 2013, motorcyclists accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities, 4 percent of all people injured, 18 percent of all occupants (driver and passenger) fatalities, and 4 percent of all occupants injured. Of the 4,668 motorcyclists killed in traffic crashes, 94 percent (4,399) were riders and 6 percent (269) were passengers.

Sharing the Road with Motorists



- Turn on headlights at dusk, whenever you use your windshield wipers, when conditions make it so you can't see 500 ft. ahead of you
- Be vigilant in looking out for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Slow down and obey the posted speed limit
- Be careful when passing stopped vehicles
- Texting is banned for all drivers. (Primary offense)

Extend Common Courtesies, remain alert at all times

Motorists: Mopeds, Scooters, Motorcycles

■ **Motorcycle still has all the rights of the road as any other motorist. Allow the motorcycle the full width of a lane at all times.**



■ **Motorcycle signals are often non-canceling and could have been forgotten. Always ensure that the motorcycle is turning before proceeding.**

■ **Always allow more follow distance – three to four seconds – when behind a motorcycle. This gives them more time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.**

Sharing the Road with Public Transportation

Public Transportation is any form of transportation that charge set fares, run fixed routes, and available to the public such as buses, subways, ferries, and trains.



Public Transportation: Railroad Crossings

Railroad crossings are **specialized intersections**.

Virginia law requires certain vehicles (e.g., school buses, oil tankers, etc.) to stop at all railroad crossings.



If you follow one of these **“Must STOP Vehicles”**, be prepared to stop, since you cannot pass or overtake them at an intersection.

Public Transportation: Railroad Crossings

Most Train/Vehicle Crashes Result from Driver Error

A train going 50 mph **takes 1.5 miles** to stop (on average).

A car going 55 mph takes about 200 feet to stop.

REMEMBER:

A train cannot swerve or stop quickly to avoid a crash.

Remember:

- **Don't drive onto the tracks unless you have enough room on the other side.**
- **Don't change gears while crossing.**
- **Be extra careful at night and in low visibility conditions.**
- **If the gate starts lowering as you are crossing, keep going, don't stop and don't back up.**
- **Don't pass other vehicles at the crossing.**

Public Transportation: Railroad Crossings

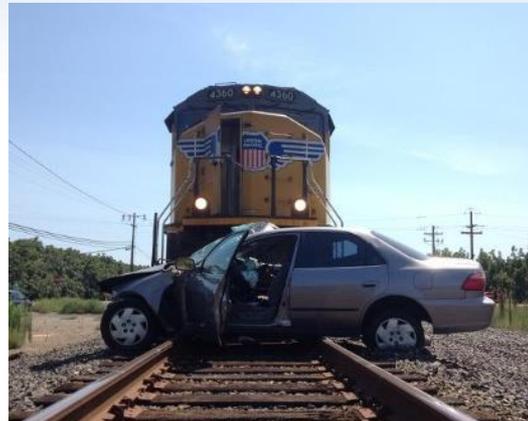
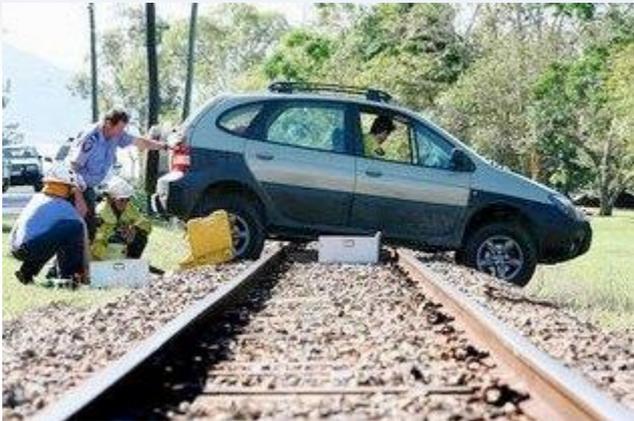
To drive safely across a railway crossing:

- Identify all warning signs, signals and protective devices.
- NEVER **assume NO train is coming.**
- LOOK both ways, and LISTEN for any audible signal (whistle) before you proceed across the tracks.
- When a train is approaching, **STOP** and let the train pass. CHECK that no other trains are approaching from either direction before you start across.

Public Transportation: Railroad Crossings

If you get stuck on the tracks:

- ✓ Get everyone out — run from the tracks.
- ✓ Call the police.
- ✓ If no train is coming, try to push the vehicle off the tracks.



Public Transportation: Bus Lanes

Bus lanes are intended to save time for bus riders by enabling them to bypass the areas of heaviest traffic congestion such as a business district.

Bus lanes are identified by the **HOV diamond and usually the words “**Bus Only**”**

Use of the bus lane is restricted to buses only!



Public Transportation: School Bus

All traffic must stop for a school bus with flashing red lights and an extended stop sign

UNLESS

The vehicles are travelling on the opposite side of a highway on a roadway separated by a physical barrier or unpaved median area.

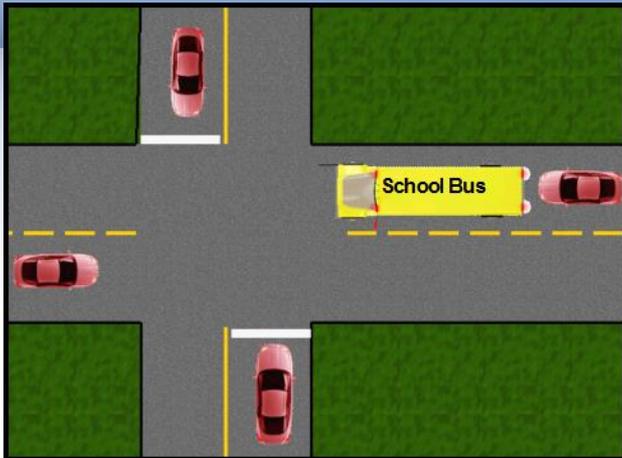


Note: You must stop if the bus is loading or unloading children and the signal devices are not working properly.

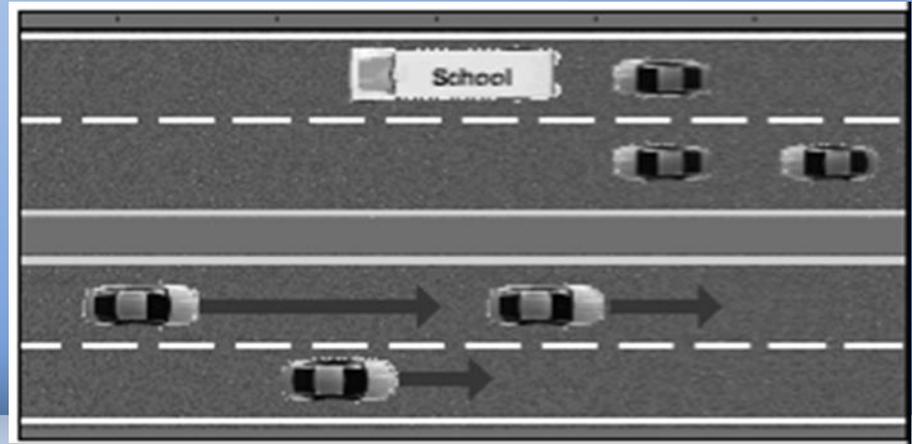
Public Transportation: School Bus

If a School Bus is Loading or Unloading Students...

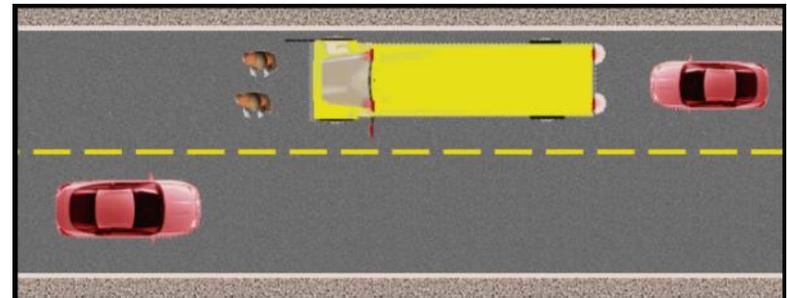
- At an intersection, all traffic must stop.



-Traffic from both directions must stop.



-Vehicles traveling on the opposite side of a divided highway separated by a barrier or unpaved median do not have to stop.



Sharing the Road with Emergency Vehicles

Yield the Right-of-Way to **Emergency Vehicles**

Vehicles must **yield** the right-of-way to police, fire, and rescue vehicles using a siren and/or flashing lights.

- ❖ Part ways of the road and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed.
- ❖ If traffic is congested, adjust lane position and leave a clear path for the emergency vehicle to pass.
- ❖ On an undivided highway, all traffic must pull over to the edge of the road and allow the emergency vehicle to pass.

Sharing the Road with Emergency Vehicles

If it is impractical to stop on the right side of the roadway, clear a path and stop and stay stopped until the emergency vehicle has passed.



Do NOT block intersections, driveways, or other roadways.

Follow the instructions of the emergency staff (police, fire, flagger, etc.).

Do NOT stop at the scene of an emergency unless you are asked to do so.

Don't slow down to see what's going on.



Sharing the Road with Pedestrians

Yield the Right-of-Way to **Pedestrians** at

- Intersections
- Crosswalks
- When Making Right & Left Turns

Expect pedestrians anytime, anywhere.

Know that pedestrians can be very hard to see, especially in bad weather or at night.



As a Pedestrians



- Use sidewalks where provided, where no sidewalks are provided, it is usually safer to walk facing road traffic
- Make it easy for driver to see you
- **Expect that driver will not be watching for pedestrians**

As a Pedestrians

Here are a few safety tips to keep in mind:

- When walking, wear light colors so motorists can see you.
- Make sure to make use of crosswalks whenever available.
- When crossing a street, look left, look right and look left again.
- At night, reflective clothing or flashlights make you more visible to motorists.
- If walking or jogging, make sure you walk against the traffic and remember reflective clothing.
- Drinking and walking can be as dangerous as drinking and driving, as a person who has been drinking may not be aware of surroundings and may walk in front of traffic.

UCI Road Championship Bike Race

The 2015 UCI Road World Championship bicycle race is coming to Virginia this September!



Organized by the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), the UCI Road World Championships are one of cycling's pinnacle events and is expected to draw over 1,000 cyclists from more than 75 countries. The spotlight will be on Richmond, Virginia's capital city, during this nine-day event.

Sharing the Road with Bicyclists



Bicyclists and motorists basically have the same rights and duties, and the laws governing traffic regulation apply equally to both. When passing a bicyclist, motor vehicles must proceed at a reasonable speed and travel at least three feet to the left of the overtaken bicycle.

As a Bicyclists

Riders should practice safe and legal bike operation

- **Ride with traffic.**
- **Stop and look both ways before entering the street.**
- **Stop at all intersections.**
- **Before turning, use hand signals and look all ways.**
- **Ride defensively - anticipate the actions of other road users and watch for road hazards.**
- **Pass vehicles with extreme care - turning vehicles may not see you.**
- **Be aware of blind spots**
- **Walk your bicycle when you get into traffic situations beyond your cycling abilities.**
- **Watch out for buses pulling to and from curbs and passengers getting on and off buses.**
- **Park your bicycle so you do not block sidewalks, disabled accesses, building accesses or emergency lanes.**

Resources

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

www.dmv.state.va.us

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

www.nhtsa.gov

Colonial Driving School

www.colonialdrivingschool.com

Questions & Comments



Division Website
www.dcp.virginia.gov

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