

Safe Driving Around Pedestrians and Bicyclists

At a crosswalk

- Don't stop in a crosswalk.
- Never pass a car stopped at a crosswalk. They might be stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross.
- Yield to pedestrians when turning left or right on green or right on red. They may have the "walk" crosswalk indicator.
- Stop far enough back so that other drivers can see that there are pedestrians in the crosswalk.
- If a pedestrian is blind (using a white cane or walking with a guide dog) you should stay stopped until they are safely across the road and out of the crosswalk.

Around bicyclists

- Bicyclists are often not permitted to ride on the sidewalks and are required to use the roadway.
- Bicyclists can be in the travel lane: it's their right if they need it.
- Do not honk your horn, this could startle the bicyclist and cause erratic behavior.
- Yield to oncoming bicyclists when turning left at an intersection, just as you would for motorists.
- Always check your blind spot for bicyclists. Be aware of bicyclists approaching and passing you at intersections. Don't pass a bicyclist and then make a right turn in front of them.

Tips for safety around all road users

- Be aware of factors that might impact your driving ability, such as medications, fatigue, alcohol, weather, and poor lighting or visibility.
- Clean your windows. The law requires you to turn on your headlights for better visibility during rain, snow etc. Do not rely on your daylight driving lights since your rear taillights will not be operating. In snow, brush off your roof, taillights and headlights.
- Obey the speed limit – speed kills!



Know the 3-Foot Law!

Keep at least **3 feet** between you and a bicyclist or pedestrian.

If you can't give 3 feet, **WAIT TO PASS.**

It is legal to cross a double-yellow line to pass a bicyclist or pedestrian if there is no oncoming traffic and it is safe to do so.

The 3-foot law protects **YOU** – you never know what might cause someone to move into your lane suddenly.



Watch for Me CT is a comprehensive program aimed at reducing the number of injuries and fatalities as a result of traffic crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists in Connecticut. It is funded by the Connecticut Department of Transportation and managed in partnership with Connecticut Children's Injury Prevention Center.

