

# Safe Driving around Pedestrians and Bicyclists



## At a Crosswalk:

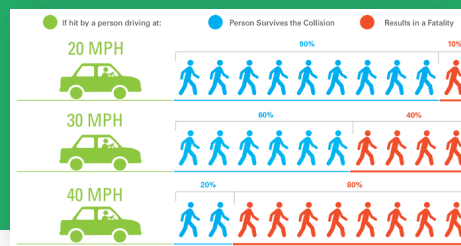
- According to Connecticut state law, drivers must yield for pedestrians at crosswalks, regardless of whether it is marked or not. Motorists must yield for pedestrians crossing, entering the crosswalk, or waving to indicate their desire to cross.
- All intersections are crosswalks, even if there are no painted lines.
- When turning, yield to pedestrians crossing, as they may have the walk signal.
- Stop far enough back so other drivers can see pedestrians in the crosswalk. **DO NOT** pass stopped cars at a crosswalk.
- If a pedestrian is blind (using a white cane or walking with a guide dog) **DO NOT** proceed until they are safely out of the crosswalk.

## Around Bicyclists:

- Bicyclists are often not allowed to ride on the sidewalk and must be in the road. Check with your city or town if you have questions about bicycles in your community.
- Bicyclists are allowed to be in the travel lane: it's their right.
- **DO NOT** honk your horn. It could startle bicyclists and cause erratic behavior.
- If you are turning right on red, you **MUST** yield for bicyclists.
- Check your blind spots for bicyclists. Be aware of the bicyclists around you especially, near an intersection. Don't pass a bicyclist and make a right turn in front of them.

## Safety Tips for all Road Users:

- Be aware of anything that may impact your mental state and ability to drive, like medications, fatigue, drugs, alcohol, weather and visibility.
- Control what you can control to improve visibility. Clean your windows. Turn on headlights for better visibility in the rain. Clear snow off roof, taillights, and headlights in addition to all windows.
- Obey the speed limit at all times.  
**Speed kills.** →



## The Three Feet Rule:



- Connecticut state law requires that cars leave at least three feet of distance between cars and vulnerable users when passing them.
- Vulnerable users are those who are at an increased risk for serious injury often because they do not have the protection of a car. Bicyclists and pedestrians are examples of vulnerable users.
- You are allowed to cross the double yellow lines to pass a pedestrian or bicyclist. If there is oncoming traffic and you can't give 3 feet, **WAIT TO PASS.**