

# **Pedestrians, Walk Smart! Drivers, Do your Part!\***

## **For Pedestrians: Walk Smart**

- Be predictable. Stay off freeways and restricted zones. Use sidewalks where provided. Cross or enter streets where it is legal to do so.
- Crosswalks and traffic lights don't stop cars! The WALK signal does not mean it is safe to cross. It only means it is your turn to cross. Check to make sure all traffic has come to a stop before crossing.
- Look before stepping past stopped vehicles—they may be blocking your view of moving traffic.
- Wear bright clothes to be seen day or night. At night, wear reflective materials.
- Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, always walk on the side of the road facing traffic.
- Stand on the side of the road while waiting for the bus and always stand at least 10 feet away from where the bus will stop.
- Alcohol and drugs can impair your ability to walk safely, just like they do a person's ability to drive.
- Try to make eye contact with the driver(s) to make sure they see you before you begin to cross

## **For Drivers: Do Your Part**

- Always come to a complete stop at the stop line.
- Stop for pedestrians who are in a crosswalk, even if it is not marked. When you stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk, stop well back so that drivers in the other lanes can also see the pedestrian in time to stop.
- Be especially attentive around schools and in neighborhoods where children are active.
- When you are turning, you often will have to wait for a "gap" in traffic. Beware that while you are watching for that "gap," pedestrians may have moved into your intended path.
- Be extra attentive and slow down in school and work zones where increased pedestrian presence is likely.
- Keep your windshield clean for maximum visibility.

*\*From the Maryland Department of Transportation*

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