

Safe Driving

Do a Walk Around

- Walk around the vehicle prior to driving or backing up. This will allow you to check for other people, damage to the vehicle, obstacles in the way, clearance space on all sides, or any other potential danger in the area.

Look Ahead

- Our eyes are designed to work for us at walking speeds
 - The average person has not adjusted visually or mentally to the higher speeds of motor vehicles
- Look ahead to where you will be at least 15 seconds into your future
 - A 15 second eye lead time provides advanced warning and gives you an additional margin of safety
- Use improved eye lead time for more efficient and economical driving

Get the Big Picture

- While scanning ahead, don't forget the sides and rear
- Consistently update your information
 - Check at least one of your mirrors every 5 to 8 seconds
- Know your vehicle's blind spots
- Stay alert to relevant information that can assist you in making well informed decisions
- Stay far enough behind other vehicles to obtain the visibility necessary to make your own decisions.

Keep Your Eyes Moving

- Scan all intersections before entering them
- Keep your eyes moving every 2 seconds
 - Eye activity stimulates the brain and an active mind is better able to resist the effects of fatigue
- Avoid distractions in your vehicle and your thinking
- Recognize and avoid drivers who seem distracted

Leave Yourself an Out

- The safest location in traffic is with few or no vehicles around you
- When possible, surround your vehicle with space.
 - If you lose part of the cushion, work to keep at least the front and one side open.
- Avoid tailgaters. When one is present, the collision potential is high.

Make Sure They See You

- Detect the presence of potential danger early.
- Send your warning signals as soon as you think they will be recognized not too soon or too late.
- Seek eye contact by using the warning devices on your vehicle.
- Eye contact is valuable, but it is no guarantee against the unexpected.