



Sidewalk Safety

Downey Fire Department Monthly Safety Message





Sidewalk Safety

- Walking to your destination is a great way to travel short distances and stay fit while doing so.
- It is crucial that both pedestrians and drivers be aware when on the roads to avoid a potential accident.
- This month's safety message will focus on delivering safety tips to pedestrians and drivers so that everyone can lead a safe and healthy life.
- These tips come from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) website. For additional info, visit nhtsa.gov.



Driver Tips



Keep Your Head On A Swivel!

- Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times.
- Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.

Don't rush!

- Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
- Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing where you can't see.





Use common sense



- Never drive under the influence of alcohol and drugs.
- Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street, in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.
- Be extra cautious when backing up and look for pedestrians.
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Pedestrian Tips



Safety First!

- Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
- Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
- If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.



Pay Attention!

- Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
- If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
- Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways, or backing up in parking lots.

Walk for Health

- Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.
- Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation - get up, get out and get moving.
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