



Traffic Safety News

From the Delaware Office of Highway Safety

When did the chicken cross the road?

When did the chicken cross the road? When it was safe, of course! You've been crossing the road your whole life, but that doesn't necessarily mean you are crossing in the safest manner possible. Never assume that the person driving the motor vehicle sees you.

What you need to know

Did you know that most fatal pedestrian crashes in Delaware occur in low light conditions? And that speed is often the determining factor of whether or not the pedestrian survives the crash?

- In both 2013 and 2014, pedestrian fatalities have accounted for nearly a quarter of all roadway deaths in Delaware.
- 38% of these fatalities involve alcohol impairment on the pedestrian's part.
- 3pm-9pm is the most dangerous time to be walking on the roadway.
- In most cases, the cause of the crashes is pedestrian error.

What you can do

Crossing the road is no joking matter. Follow these tips to make sure that you get to the other side safely:

- Cross only at crosswalks or intersections that have signals or traffic signs.
- When walking at night, carry a flashlight or reflective item.
- Use sidewalks. If there isn't one, walk facing traffic as far off the edge of the road as possible.
- Even though you have the right of way, don't step into a crosswalk when a car is approaching. Don't cross until you are certain the driver sees you.

For the 20 seconds it'll take, pick your head up, put the phone down, wait for the sign, look both ways and pay attention to traffic. The other side isn't far away; be sure to make it there.

Walk Smart. Arrive Alive DE.

This message is being sent to you by the Office of Highway Safety, who asks you to drive safely at all times. For more information on this and other traffic safety programs, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov. Follow us on Facebook at Delaware Office of Highway Safety and on Twitter @DEhighwaysafe.