



CROSS WATCH

Pedestrians still find themselves in a world dominated by motorists. Injury prevention and travel safety begin with a mutual respect between both motorists and pedestrians. Cross Watch is a Mississauga Safe Driving program to encourage pedestrian safety. The Cross Watch sign is intended to remind pedestrians to exercise caution when crossing the street and to remind motorists of the presence of pedestrians at an intersection.



Older adults represent a large number of pedestrian deaths. Reaction times and the ability to make judgments about speed and distance are altered as we age.

- **Watch for all moving vehicles. Don't assume that motorists see you or that all vehicles will stop**
- Make eye contact with motorists turning right on red. Make sure they can see you
- Push the pedestrian signal button to ensure you are allotted ample time to cross the street safely. Always cross at the beginning of a "Walk" signal
- Wear light-coloured or reflective clothing so you are clearly visible to motorists
- Cross streets at the intersection, not mid-block, between parked cars or in front of a bus



Peer group pressure, cell phones, text messaging and the use of personal stereos can easily distract young pedestrians. Remember, when a vehicle and pedestrian collide, the pedestrian always loses.

- Obey traffic signals
- Pushing the pedestrian signal will give you enough time to cross the street
- Watch for cars
- Where there are no signs or signals, wait until it is safe to cross. Keep your head up and make eye contact with motorists
- When there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible

Teach traffic safety skills to children to help keep them safe. Help them develop the habits they will need to become safe road users for life.

- **Obey traffic signals. Watch for traffic in all directions before you cross**
- Never run out on the street
- Sidewalks are safest. Where there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible
- Before crossing the street, make sure traffic has stopped and make eye contact with motorists
- Obey crossing guards. They are there for your safety
- Never cross the street from between parked cars
- Look Left-Right-Left before crossing the street and continue looking as you cross

Motorists who injure or kill a pedestrian will live with the personal consequences for the rest of their lives. In busy pedestrian areas, motorists should exercise additional caution.

- Watch out when you approach intersections
- Watch for pedestrians and cyclists, even if you have the right of way
- **Stoplines mean stop . . . behind the line. Yield to pedestrians**

- Actively be on the lookout for pedestrians - especially when turning
- Be patient with disabled, elderly pedestrians or parents with young children who may take longer to cross the street
- Never pass a vehicle stopped or stopping for a pedestrian
- Keep your windshield and windows clear

Follow these steps to activate the pedestrian walk signal:

1. When you arrive at a traffic signal, stop, look and wait. Always push the button to activate the Walk signal. The signal to Walk will allow you enough time to cross the street.
2. Begin crossing the street when the Walk signal appears. You will have time to reach the other side.
3. A flashing hand means if you are part way across the street, keep walking until you have reached the other side. Do not start to cross the street.
4. A hand that is not flashing means do not cross. Push the button and wait for the Walk signal.

Website:

www.mississauga.ca/crosswatch



Enhanced Pavement Marking

In an effort to enhance the pavement markings at intersections with existing crosswalks, the Transportation and Works Department developed an Enhanced Pavement Marking in 2006. At various intersections throughout the City, a zebra striping crosswalk treatment was implemented. Zebra striping crosswalk markings are longitudinal lines installed across the pedestrian crosswalk, parallel to the driver's direction of travel. The increased reflective pavement marking material enhances the visibility of the crosswalk for motorists and pedestrians during the day and night.

