



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
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Newsletter Article

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Walk Smart

The Delaware Office of Highway Safety (OHS) is teaming up with the Delaware Department of Transportation (Del DOT), law enforcement, and other safety professionals to launch this year's pedestrian Walk Smart safety campaign.

Law enforcement officers will be conducting overtime education patrols in New Castle County and Sussex County all summer, stopping pedestrian violators to talk with them about safe walking and crossing practices. OHS and Del DOT are also increasing public awareness with a realistic demonstration conducted by safety officials to show life-or-death examples of how speed can make the difference between injury and death in pedestrian crashes.

Consider this:

- From 2012-2013, 754 reportable pedestrian crashes occurred on Delaware's roadways. 75% of those crashes were in New Castle County.
- There were 20 pedestrian-related crashes along Route 1 from Lewes to Fenwick Island from 2011-2013.

The vast majority of these crashes can be prevented if drivers reduce their speed and pedestrians use care along roadways. Follow these safe walking tips to prevent being involved in a crash:

- Always use a sidewalk when available. If no sidewalk is available, walk as far off the roadway as possible and walk facing traffic.
- When walking in low light conditions or at night, always carry a flashlight or wear reflective material. If motorists can't see you they will not be able to stop for you.
- Never walk impaired.
- Use crosswalks or cross at intersections with signals or traffic signs. These are safer areas than crossing mid-block, and motorists will expect to see pedestrians in these areas.

Pictures and video of the demonstration can be found on OHS YouTube <http://youtu.be/4blq-Q-fwPM> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArriveAliveDE> . To learn more about the campaign, visit <http://ohs.delaware.gov/PedestrianSafety>.

Walk Smart. Arrive Alive DE.