



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY**

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**Newsletter Article**

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**Everyone is a Pedestrian**

Everyone has different preferences when it comes to transportation, but there's one that all road users share—everyone is a pedestrian. Recently, Delaware has seen a spike in pedestrian involved crashes. In most cases, the cause is pedestrian error - not being visible at night, crossing improperly, and walking impaired. That's why OHS is reminding everyone to be on the lookout for pedestrians and *Walk Smart*. Use these tips provided by The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

**Drivers can:**

- Look out for pedestrians, especially in hard-to-see conditions such as at night or in bad weather.
- Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or entering a crosswalk where pedestrians are likely to be.
- Stop at the crosswalk stop line to give drivers in other lanes an opportunity to see and yield to the pedestrians, too.
- Be cautious when backing up – pedestrians, especially young children, can move across your path.

**Pedestrians can:**

- Be predictable. Follow the rules of the road, cross at crosswalks or intersections, and obey signs and signals.
- Walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible if there is no sidewalk.
- Pay attention to the traffic moving around you. This is not the time to be texting or talking on a cell phone.
- Make eye contact with drivers as they approach. Never assume a driver sees you.
- Look left-right-left before crossing a street.
- Wear bright clothing during the day and reflective materials at night.
- Carry and use a flashlight at night.
- Never walk impaired.

**Walk Smart. Arrive Alive DE.**