



## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Every year Sarasota County Fire Department responds to hundreds of emergencies involving pedestrians – both adults and children. Every year there are numerous car/pedestrian accidents. Most crashes involving children happen between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

### Follow These Safety Tips to Stay Safe:

Pedestrian injuries and deaths can be prevented.

- Cross streets at crosswalks, signals or corners.
- Always remember to stop a safe distance away from the curb and look and listen for traffic.
- **STOP** – look left, look right, then left again before starting to cross the street.
- If a parked car is blocking your view, step to the front of the car, look left, look right, then left again before starting to cross.
- Obey **all** traffic signs and signals.
- Push “**Pedestrian Walk**” button for the **WALK** signal. It will give you more time to cross the street.
- If there is no traffic signal, wait for a break in traffic before crossing the street – **be sure the driver sees you!**
- When walking at night, make sure you can be seen. Wear reflective, bright or light color clothing.
- Do not use alcohol or any other drugs when moving in or around traffic in any way – even walking.
- Always walk on the sidewalk. When there are no sidewalks, walk on the left-hand side of the street. The traffic will be coming toward you, so drivers will be able to see you.
- **Teach children to cross in front of a bus;** children should stay away from the side or back of the bus where the driver cannot see them.
- When an emergency vehicle is approaching move away from the curb.

### CHILDREN SAFETY:

- Cross only with a parent or crossing guard at major streets and intersections.
- **Always** listen to and obey all crossing guard’s directions.
- Stand in the “Safety Zone” (the Safety Zone is 2 giant steps back from the curb) until the crossing guard signals it is safe to cross the street.
- **WALK CAREFULLY. No running or horseplay while crossing the street.**

**MORE INFORMATION:**

**Contact:**

**Sarasota County Fire Department**

**Public Education Department**

**941-861-5000**

**[www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net)**