Pedestrian Safety

On average, a pedestrian is injured in a traffic collision every eight minutes. Most pedestrian injuries occur as a result of combined inattentiveness of motorists and the failure of pedestrians to use crosswalks. Additionally, the failure of both pedestrians and motorists to obey traffic signals can cause a fatality. By taking basic precautions and being aware of one’s surroundings, the likelihood of an unnecessary collision can be dramatically reduced.

Safety Tips For Pedestrians

As a pedestrian, it is your responsibility to make yourself visible and avoid dangerous behavior and situations. When possible, utilize the sidewalk; if not available, you should walk against the flow of traffic. Always obey crossing signals, but make sure to look both ways before crossing into the street. Even if you have the right-of-way, it is important to realize that vehicles may not always stop. Make eye contact with drivers and pay attention to the environment around you. If you are wearing headphones or talking on your cell phone while crossing the street it is important to pay attention to your surroundings and take extra care to avoid dangerous situations.

Safety Tips For Drivers

It is important for drivers to be aware of crossing pedestrians at all times, whether they are in marked or unmarked crosswalks. Obey the posted speed limit and always be prepared to stop for pedestrians who may not see or hear you. It is also the driver’s responsibility to maintain a safe speed when driving through residential and school areas. You should always avoid aggressive driving and never pass a vehicle that is stopped at a pedestrian crosswalk.

Safety Tips For Bicycles

Bicyclists share the responsibility of being both a pedestrian and a vehicle. When on a pathway, a bicyclist takes on the role of a pedestrian. Even as a pedestrian you must travel at a safe speed, follow posted signs, and yield to other pedestrians. When traveling on roads a bicyclist is considered a vehicle and must obey the same traffic laws as other motorists. It is illegal to wear headphones while riding your bike because it can impair your senses. Additionally, if you bicycle while intoxicated you will be held to the same standards as other motorists and may be issued a DUI.

Safety Tips For Skateboards

Unlike bicycles, skateboarders must always act as pedestrians. This means skateboarders must take care and yield to other pedestrians while maintaining a safe speed. In some areas skateboarding is prohibited and it is important to be aware and follow such posted laws. Since skateboards are not considered vehicles, skateboarders cannot ride in the street. If you are caught riding a skateboard in the street you may be issued a ticket.
Pedestrian Safety

Important Websites
US Department of Transportation (ped safety)
• safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
• nhtsa.dot.gov/
City of Boulder
• bouldercolorado.gov
CU Night Ride
• umc.colorado.edu/quicklinks/nightridepurpose.html
CU-Boulder Interactive Map
• colorado.edu/campusmap

Campus Resources
CU Police Department
(303) 492-6666

Community Resources
Boulder County Sheriff’s Office
(303) 441-4444
Boulder Police Department
(303) 441-3333
Boulder Community Hospital
(303) 440-2273
City of Boulder Transportation
(303) 441-3266

In an EMERGENCY dial 911

IMPORTANT: Sign up for emergency text messages
To receive text messages in the case of an emergency, you must register your cell phone number. Register online and get more information at:
www.colorado.edu/alerts

University of Colorado Police Department
(303) 492-6666
1050 Regent Drive
Boulder, Colorado 80309
www.cupolice.com
Patrol and Investigations
(303) 492-8168

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