

# Know the Signs



**Pedestrian Crossing sign:** Pedestrian crossing ahead, slow down and be prepared to stop.



**School Crossing sign:** A pedestrian crossing where school children cross a street on the way to school.



**Crosswalk sign:** Reinforces that all vehicles that must stop for pedestrians within crosswalk.



**Slow School Zone sign:** This sign alerts drivers of a restricted speed in a zone near a school.



**Stop sign:** All vehicles, bikes and people must stop.

# Crosswalk Safety

CROSSING COUNTDOWN

PUSH  
BUTTON  
FOR  
WALK  
SIGNAL

Walk

Time left to cross

Don't walk

**Crossing Countdown sign:** Flashes the number of seconds that are left to cross the street before the traffic signal changes.



A warning light at the crosswalk will alert drivers that you are waiting to cross the street.

# Want to Know More About Walking Safely?



[www.safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local\\_rural/pedcampaign/](http://www.safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/pedcampaign/)

Provided by  
**Pinellas County**  
 Metropolitan Planning Organization  
 Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee



[www.pinellascounty.org/mpo](http://www.pinellascounty.org/mpo)

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[www.walkwiseflorida.com](http://www.walkwiseflorida.com)

# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

WALK SMART IN PINELLAS COUNTY



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
 PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

# Get There Safely

## SAFETY WHILE WALKING

### Think Ahead

Will that car turn? Is that truck backing up? Look around and think ahead.

### Be Sure

Make eye contact with the driver before crossing in front of any vehicle.

### Be Seen

Wear bright-colored clothing during the day. At night, wear white or reflective clothing, and carry a flashlight.

### Be Predictable

No surprises! Never step into the road suddenly or from behind a parked car or other obstacle.

### Use the Crosswalks

Use the pedestrian crossing signals at busy intersections, they make crossing the street safer.

### Be Part of a Group

Cross the street with a group or a crossing guard. A group is easier for a driver to see than just one person.

### Use Sidewalks

If there are no sidewalks, walk on the side of the road facing the traffic so you can see the cars coming and step off the road in a hurry.



Ensure all lanes of traffic have stopped for you at the crosswalk before you cross, not just the lane closest to you.

## SAFETY WHILE BIKING

- Wear a helmet.
- Remove headphones to hear traffic.
- Cross at corners and watch for turning traffic.
- Check for oncoming traffic before entering every intersection.
- Walk your bike across the street using the crosswalk.
- Signal your turns.
- Cross with a crossing guard whenever possible.
- Don't ride between cars – even parked cars.
- Stop at all stop signs and red lights.
- Ride with traffic, not against it.
- Always ride as if drivers don't see you!



Attach a day-glo stick or reflective tape to your bike to be more visible.

BUS STOP AHEAD

SCHOOL BUS STOP AHEAD

Caution, there is a school bus stop ahead, children will be at the bus stop and near the roadway.

## SAFETY ON THE BUS

- Stay alert for cars when getting off the bus.
- Stay seated until your stop.
- Obey the bus driver.
- Be on time! Running to or from the bus leads to accidents.
- Stand back from the curb and away from traffic while waiting for the bus.

Be aware of cars and traffic while waiting for the school bus.



## SAFETY WHILE DRIVING

### Be Alert

Be on the lookout for pedestrians and bicycles. Be extra careful at intersections.

### Obey All Traffic Laws

Follow the speed limit and watch for road signs.

### Take Extra Precautions Before Backing Up

Know what's behind your vehicle before backing up.

### Signal Your Intentions

Use your turn signals before changing lanes or making a turn.

### Pedestrians Have the Right of Way in a Crosswalk

Take note of pedestrian or school crosswalk signs alerting that a crosswalk is ahead.

### Never Drink and Drive!

Arrange for a designated driver or taxi whenever necessary.

### Scan Your Surroundings

Anticipate upcoming traffic situations.

NO TEXTING



Don't text while walking, biking or driving. It is illegal to text while driving in Florida.



Don't text while driving! Texting can wait.

The road traffic needs your full attention.

SCHOOL CROSSING



A School Crossing is ahead – these are crosswalks for children crossing the street. Approach any crosswalk with caution.

It is easier to see a group of pedestrians with a crossing guard.



What is a pe-des-tri-an (pa-des' tré-an)?

- A person on a scooter, skates or skateboard
- A person afoot
- A person in a wheelchair
- All of the above