

## Transportation Safety Newsletter, May 2023

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Oregon Department  
of Transportation

## Transportation Safety

May 2023

### Child Passenger Safety Technician Month



Join thousands of other nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians to help parents and caregivers properly secure their children in the correct car seat so children are safe in the event of a crash. During the technician course, you will learn about what happens during a crash, injury prevention strategies, how to choose a car seat for different children, how to install car seats properly, and how to keep all passengers safe in a vehicle. Many people who become certified technicians develop a renewed sense of community because the work they do will help keep kids safe and saves lives.

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## Transportation Safety Awareness Month

May is “Transportation Safety Awareness Month” in Oregon, and whether you are walking, bicycling, riding a motorcycle, or driving, you’ll most likely see some reminder to be safe. It might be orange cones or barrels indicating a work zone or it might be someone on the radio saying, “Slow down. Better roads ahead.” Whatever the message, the goal is the same: improve safety for Oregonians and visitors to our state. Drive like you work there and stay safe. Slow down. We’re depending on you, and our workers thank you!



Ontario and Vale Transportation Maintenance Manager Steve Robertson [talks about work zone safety and his experience with work zone crashes.](#)

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## Roll Together Safely

With the beautiful spring weather and longer days, many of us are excited to get back on our bicycles and get outside. During National Bicycle Safety Month in May, safety advocates are encouraging all users of the roads – those who drive, walk, and roll – to “Look out for each other.” When we pay attention to what’s around us, we are better able to avoid tragedies that can result from interactions involving people driving, walking, riding, and rolling.



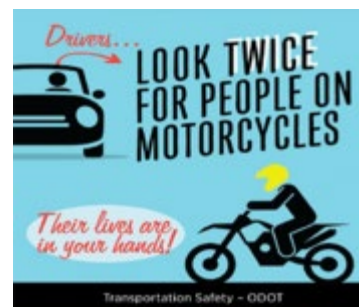
Bicycling is one of the best ways to get exercise, see the sights, and reduce your carbon footprint. People driving are reminded that people on bicycles have the same rights and responsibilities as people behind the wheel of a vehicle. When driving, make sure to yield to people bicycling as you would to people driving, search your surroundings for people walking or rolling especially near intersections, and only pass a bicyclist when it’s safe to do so and you can slow down and give plenty of safe passing distance. People bicycling can use a handy [field guide](#) and [bicycling manual](#) from ODOT to get ready for a safe ride. With more bikes on the road, remember to look out for each other and enjoy the ride!

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## Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Did you know: Almost 40% of your field of vision in a car is

blocked by blind spots. As a driver, stay engaged and alert for motorcycles. Because of its size, a motorcycle can be hard to see in traffic and it can be difficult to gauge the speed of an approaching motorcycle. Stay safe and look twice for people on motorcycles.



## Move Over! It's the Law.

When you're driving and you see flashing lights ahead, move over into the next available lane. If you're not able to do that, you must slow down—to at least 5 mph below the speed limit. It can save lives...most likely, yours.

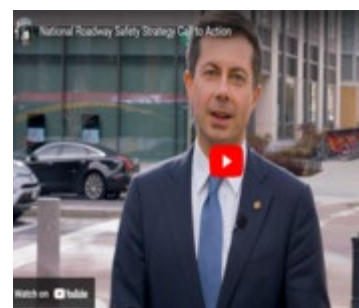
And since 2017, "move over" has been the law for flashing lights of any color on any type of vehicle—tow trucks, public works trucks, emergency response vehicles, hazard lights on passenger vehicles, law enforcement, or ODOT vehicles. Move over or slow down.



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## National Roadway Safety Strategy

DOT's Allies in Action have committed to taking specific, tangible steps to actively reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on America's roads and streets, expand the adoption of a Safe System Approach and a Zero Fatalities vision across the nation, and transform how we as a nation think about road safety. What can you do to improve roadway safety where you live and work?



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## Resources

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