



October 2025 Newsletter

October is National Pedestrian Safety Month



October is National Pedestrian Safety Month, and officials are urging everyone to be more alert on the roads after years of increasing pedestrian fatalities.

This month is a reminder that walking is a shared responsibility. Drivers can help by following the speed limit, staying focused, and stopping for people in crosswalks. Pedestrians can do their part by using sidewalks, crossing at marked crosswalks when possible, and making sure they're visible, especially in low light.

The Transportation Safety Office has released new safety messages in English and Spanish that highlight:

- General pedestrian safety, with a focus on public awareness in the fall
- White Cane safety awareness

- Safe Routes to School and Halloween safety

Learn more about these and other programs on the [Transportation Safety Office webpage](#).

Have fun this Halloween... but have a plan to stay safe on the roads.

The National Highway Safety Administration reminds everyone that Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving in their new Halloween themed media. Here are a few tips to stay safe:

- Before drinking, choose a designated driver, [or schedule a ride-sharing, ride-hailing or taxi](#) service.
- If you are hosting a party where there's alcohol, offer non-alcoholic drink options and make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.
- Always wear your seat belt — it's the best defense against drunk drivers.
- If you suspect a drunk driver on the road, safely pull over and call law enforcement.



You can also visit the [NHTSA Buzzed Driving webpage](#) and the [ODOT Transportation Safety Office Impaired Driving Program webpage](#).

White Cane Safety Day

White Cane Safety Day is October 15, but it's also a good reminder for every day of the year:

- Give pedestrians with white canes or guide dogs the right-of-way.
- Stop and wait until they have crossed all lanes.
- Be patient, so everyone can get where they're going safely.

Learn more on the [American Foundation for the Blind \(AFB\) webpage](#).

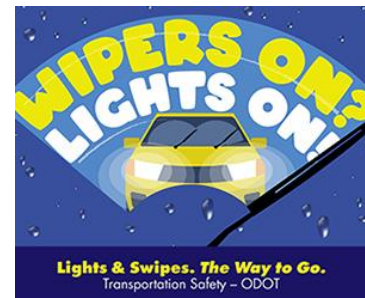


Lights and Swipes

Did you know Oregon law requires drivers to use headlights:

- From sunset to sunrise.
- Whenever visibility is limited by fog, rain, sleet or snow.
- Any time windshield wipers are on.
- When following another vehicle within 350 feet.

Headlights help you see — and be seen.



Learn more on the [ODOT Transportation Safety Office Lights and Swipes webpage](#).

Teen Driver Safety Week

National Teen Driver Safety Week is October 19-25, 2025. It is to raise awareness about the leading cause of death for young people, car crashes.

During this week, teens, parents, schools, and communities are encouraged to discuss and take action on key issues like inexperience, distracted driving, and impaired driving to prevent tragedies and save lives.

For more information and resources about teen driving safety, visit the [NHTSA Teen Driving webpage](#) or the [AAA Safe Driving for Teenagers: Safety Tips and Resources webpage](#).

For information about driver education for teens visit:

[Why Drive With Ed](#)
[Oregon DMV Teen Drivers](#)
[ODOT Transportation Safety Office Driver Education Program](#)



Tell Us What You Think!

Your voice matters! Take a moment to participate in our quick survey and share your insights. Your feedback plays a vital role in shaping safety improvements in your community and across Oregon.

Together, we can make Oregon's roadways safer for everyone.

[Take the Traffic Safety Survey Now](#)



Resources

[Contact us at ODOT Transportation Safety](#)

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24/7: [TripCheck.com](#) or dial 511.
