



WINTER 25/26

Traffic Safety Newsletter



During the winter months, staying safe on the roads and sidewalks becomes more important than ever. Here are some key tips for school bus riders, pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

School Bus Safety Tips

- **Wear bright or reflective clothing:**
Winter mornings are dark - bright colors help the bus driver see you.
- **Stand back from the road:**
Stay 5 giant steps (about 6–10 feet) from the curb.
- **Watch for icy patches around the bus:**
Step carefully and take your time.
- **Walk, don't run:**
Snow and ice make sidewalks slippery. Take small, careful steps.



Pedestrian Safety Tips

- **Cross streets at crosswalks:**
Pedestrians have the right-of-way.
- **Make eye contact with drivers:**
Be aware of drivers and make sure they see you.
- **Wear bright or reflective clothing:**
Winter means darker days - stay visible, especially at night.
- **Stay alert and avoid phone distractions:**
Keep your eyes up, not on your phone.



Bicycle Safety Tips

- **Use front and rear lights - day or night:** Be visible during all times of the day and weather conditions.
- **Wear reflective clothing or add reflective tape to your bike:** Remain visible to drivers on the road.
- **Use well-lit routes with less traffic:** Avoid potential dangerous conditions.
- **Be extra cautious in low-contrast conditions:** Be extra careful during early dusk, when there is fog, or during snowfall.



Driver Safety Tips

- **Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks:** Pedestrians have the right of way
- **Reduce speed on snowy or icy roads:** Driving slower will reduce the chance of sliding.
- **Increase following distance to allow extra stopping time:** Icy conditions can make it harder to brake with enough time.
- **Keep windshields and lights clear:** Ensure nothing is blocking your view.



Fun & Games

Winter Roadway Safety

S B F O G H E J O L K E C T H B C Y
P I C E M L I J C A V X O Q Q R R Z
E C I D O D A L E R T F N M T I E C
E Y B U S K M F Z M D Q D D U G F A
D C L J U V I S I B I L I T Y H L U
P L S I G N A L O H I F T L Q T E T
S E N T W I N T E R C S I H D C C I
X F K T R A F F I C E A O G J O T O
K Q P E D E S T R I A N N B G L I U
R O U T E Y S N O W J J S F L O V S
J B X K F D U S K P W L K G I R E Y
M W I N D S H I E L D N N Z G S C C

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden →, ↓, and ↘.

BRIGHT COLORS

PEDESTRIAN

VISIBILITY

REFLECTIVE

WINDSHIELD

CONDITIONS

CAUTIOUS

BICYCLE

TRAFFIC

WINTER

SIGNAL

ALERT

ROUTE

SPEED

SNOW

DUSK

BUS

ICE

FOG



Youth Amabassadors



While safety begins with each one of us, it's even more powerful when we look out for others. Our Youth Ambassadors have volunteered their time and knowledge to educate other youth about roadway safety.

The Ambassadors have been hard at work - offering peer support, sparking important conversations, and inspiring communities to adopt safer behaviors on our roadways. Their efforts are not only noble but vital in shaping a culture of safety from the ground up.

For more information, or if interested in becoming a Youth Ambassador, email contentj@co.rockland.ny.us



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Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

TrafficSafety.ny.gov

