

APRIL 2021 CCDC SAFETY MESSAGE

April 7 is National Walking Day

Spring is here and many of us are increasing our walking activities. Unfortunately, pedestrian fatalities remain high. In 2019, 6,205 pedestrians died.

Know the Basics of Pedestrian Safety

10 Walking Safety Tips from the National Highway Safety Transportation Administration

1. Be predictable. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
3. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Always keep alert; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road.
5. Whenever possible, cross streets at crosswalks or intersections, where drivers expect pedestrians. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
6. If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
7. Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach to make sure you are seen.
8. Be visible at all times. Wear bright clothing during the day and wear reflective materials or use a flashlight at night.
9. Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.
10. Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.
11. Use a walkability checklist!
 1. Did you have room to walk?
 2. Was it easy to cross streets?
 3. Did drivers behave well?
 4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?
 5. Was your walk pleasant?

Check the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration website [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov) for additional information on walking safety for elders and children.

THINK SMART, BE AWARE, BE FLEXIBLE, BE EDUICATED (SAFE)