



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695
www.YoloCounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2024

Contact: Dwight Coddington

Email: PIO@YoloCounty.org

Phone: (530) 908-0186

Pedestrian Safety Starts with You: Stay Alert to Protect People Walking

(Woodland, CA) – This National Pedestrian Safety Month, the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency’s (HHSA) Traffic Safety Program is emphasizing the importance of vigilance and caution among local drivers to enhance pedestrian safety. By taking extra precautions, motorists can significantly reduce the risk of crashes and injuries, ensuring that walking remains a safe and viable option for travelling about the community.

The urgency of this message is underscored by alarming statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which reported 7,522 pedestrian fatalities in traffic crashes across the United States in 2022. In California alone, 1,158 pedestrians lost their lives in traffic incidents that year, accounting for 26 percent of all traffic-related fatalities statewide. These figures highlight the critical need for heightened awareness and robust safety measures for pedestrians.

To promote safer roads for everyone, the Traffic Safety Program offers essential tips for both drivers and pedestrians. Drivers are advised to adhere to speed limits, particularly at intersections, where they should be prepared to stop for pedestrians at both marked and unmarked crosswalks. It is crucial to avoid blocking crosswalks while waiting to make a right turn and to never drive under the influence.

For pedestrians, predictability is key. Utilizing signalized crosswalks allows drivers to anticipate foot traffic more effectively. Pedestrians should always be cautious when crossing streets, remaining aware of oncoming vehicles—at a speed of 30 mph, a driver needs at least 90 feet to come to a complete stop. To enhance visibility, especially at night, wearing bright colors or reflective materials is advisable, and using a flashlight can also help. Extra care should be taken when navigating crosswalks or busy streets with higher speed limits, particularly during nighttime.

The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency encourages residents to engage in the ongoing conversation about pedestrian safety by participating in the Go Safely Movement, a traffic safety survey initiated by the California Office of Traffic Safety. Interested individuals can contribute their insights by visiting GoSafelyCA.org.

This initiative is supported by funding from a grant provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety, in collaboration with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Together, Yolo County and its partners are working towards safer roads for all.

###

Disponible en español usando la función Traducir en la parte superior de nuestro sitio web
Доступно на русском языке с помощью функции «Перевести» в верхней части нашего сайта
使用我们网站顶部的翻译功能可以获取中文版本