



News Release
Ashland Police Department
www.ashlandpolice.us
Douglas A. Goodman, Chief
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For Immediate Release

Ashland Police Department Summer Pedestrian Safety Tips

With summer upon us as well as the end of the school year, the Ashland Police Department wants to remind everyone of pedestrian safety tips while driving and walking around town. With warmer temperatures, more residents and visitors will be walking around town on sidewalks and crosswalks, many of them children enjoying summer break.

Tips for drivers:

- Be alert, do not drive distracted.
- Expect the unexpected. Children may cross the street in unexpected locations or suddenly run in front of you.
- Double check your surroundings before backing out of your driveway and parking spots.

Tips for parents:

- Teach children to cross streets at crosswalks or intersections with pedestrian signals.
- Stop, Look, and Listen before crossing the street. Teach children to make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing a street.
- Remind children not to play in or along streets and parking lots.

All residents are reminded that Virginia state code requires motorists to yield for pedestrians that are in crosswalks by slowing down or stopping if necessary. State law also requires that pedestrians show due regard for approaching traffic before crossing the road.

Pedestrians can improve their safety by wearing bright colors during the day and reflective material or flashing lights at night. While light colored clothing can be helpful in making you visible at night, reflective tape or reflective fabric is much better.

During the next few weeks, the Ashland Police Department will be conducting speed and pedestrian safety patrols in areas heavily travelled by pedestrians. Remember: **Be Safe and Be Seen!**

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