UNIT 2 Notes

Day 4

Speed Requirement

- Basic speed law
- Speed limits
- Street Racing

Right of Way

- Pedestrians
- Bicycles
- Other vehicles

WASHINGTON SPEED REQUIREMENTS

Speed limits

- Speed limits are set for safety. They are the fastest speed allowed in good driving conditions.
- Traffic engineers determine and set speed limits based on the type of road, amount of traffic, hidden dangers, and collisions at the location.
- Speed limits don't tell you how fast to drive. They tell you that you cannot go faster than the posted speed limit. The maximum speed is set for ideal conditions like on a clear day.
- Some states also have minimum speed limits.

Basic speed law says you must drive at a speed that is reasonable and prudent at all times regardless of the posted speed or maximum limit.

- If you drive at a speed that is unsafe for existing conditions in any area, even if you are driving slower the posted speed, you can be cited for violating the basic rule.

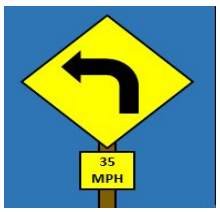
What factors must be taken in consideration when obeying this law? **Weather, hazards, visibility**

Maximum Speed Limits: *Unless otherwise posted.*

SCHOOL ZONE: 20 mph **TOWN/ CITY:** 25 mph **COUNTY ROAD:** 50 mph **STATE HIGHWAYS:** 60 mph

When should you start increasing your speed for speed limit increase? When you get to the sign.

Advisory Speed Limits: These speed limits are set for special conditions such as a sharp curve ahead and are often posted below a warning sign that makes you aware of the condition. Ignoring these signs puts you at risk for being involved in a preventable collision.



RIGHT OF WAY

Right of Way: Privilege of having the use of that part of the roadway first.

Yield: Let others go before you.

- A right of way law does not give anyone the right of way; it only says who must yield. You must do everything you can to prevent collision regardless of the circumstances.
- There will be times when you will have to slow or stop your vehicle to let others continue safely, even if they should have yielded to you.

Intersections

Who goes first at a 4-way intersection? Whoever gets there first.

What are uncontrolled intersections? Who yields to who? Intersections with no signs or signals. Those already in the intersection and those coming from the left.

Yield to oncoming vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians when turning <u>left</u>.

Sharing the Road: Responsibility is shared by motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

- **Pedestrians have the right of way at <u>intersections</u> whether the crosswalk is <u>marked</u> or <u>not</u>.**
- **What about blind pedestrians?** They have absolute right of way

Bicycles

Bicyclists have the *choice* to ride on the roadway, on the shoulder of a road, in a bicycle lane, or on a sidewalk.

- **When riding on the road:** Bicyclists have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities of a motor vehicle driver.
- **When riding on the side of the road or sidewalk:** Have all rights and duties of a pedestrian.

When passing a bicyclist allow at least **<u>3</u>** feet of space when overtaking or passing a bicycle. When following bicyclists, give them plenty of room and be prepared to stop quickly.

When riding at night, a bicycle must have a red reflector visible for **<u>600</u>** feet to the rear and a white light visible in the front for **<u>500</u>** feet.

Emergency vehicle

- Pull over to the **<u>right</u>** side of the road.
- If you are in an intersection, drive through it **<u>before</u>** you pull over.
- If the light is red, **<u>stay where you are.</u>**
- When following emergency vehicles – Police vehicles, ambulances, and fire trucks need more room to operate. Do not follow closer than **<u>500</u>** feet to a fire truck.

Transit vehicle

When must you yield to a transit vehicle? When they are signaling to return to the roadway.

School Bus

You must stop for a school bus that is stopped with its red lights flashing.
You are not required to stop if the school bus is traveling in the opposite direction AND

- Has **<u>3</u>** or marked traffic lanes
- Is separated by a **<u>median</u>** or is separated by a **<u>physical barrier</u>**

DRIVING SAFELY AMONG BICYCLISTS – Video Question

Circle the correct answer.

1. **True or <u>False</u>**

Bicyclists have no legal right to ride on the roadway, occupy a lane, or pull out of a bicycle lane to make a turn or avoid an obstruction.

2. **In turning at a corner or pulling into a driveway, a driver should?**
   A. Yield to oncoming bicyclists rather than rushing to beat the bicyclist.
   B. Watch to bicyclists who are in the crosswalk or on an adjacent sidewalk.
   C. Check blind spot and side mirror to make sure a bicyclist is not beside the car.
   D. All of the above.

3. **What minimum distance should a driver maintain between her car and the bicyclist when they pass on a roadway or in a bike lane?**
   A. At least 1 foot from the widest point of both the car and bicyclist.
   B. At least 2 feet from the widest point of both the car and bicyclist.
   C. At least 3 feet from the widest point of both the car and bicyclist.
   D. At least 4 feet from the widest point of both the car and bicyclist.

4. **When a driver approaches a bicyclist from the rear, the driver should:**
   A. Shout or throw and object to get the bicyclist to ride on the sidewalk.
   B. Race the engine or honk to warn the bicyclist.
   C. Wait until traffic clears so that the car can pull out and pass with at least 3 feet of space.
   D. None of these

5. **<u>True</u> or False**

Motor vehicles may not park in bicycle lanes or use bicycle lanes as a turn lane at intersections.

6. **Even if a bicycle lane is present, bicyclists are legally permitted to use a lane of traffic in which of the following circumstances.**
   A. When passing another bicyclist or riding two abreast.
   B. When there are obstructions, glass or other hazards in the bicycle lane.
   C. When making a left turn or using a left turn lane.
   D. All of the above

7. **<u>True</u> or False**

When proceeding from a stop sign, a motorist must yield to a bicycle that has the right of way under right of way rules.

8. **A driver should be alert to:**
   A. A bicyclist riding into the street from a driveway or side street.
   B. Opening a car door in the path of an oncoming bicyclist.
   C. A bicyclist riding against the traffic flow.
   D. All of the above.

9. **<u>True</u> or False**

In Washington, bicycles may ride two abreast (side by side) on a roadway.

10. **True or <u>False</u>**

Motorists who are turning off a roadway have the right of way over bicyclists proceeding straight on the roadway.

Notes:

Day 5 Notes

DRIVING COMMUNICATION

Timely Communications	Untimely or Non Communications
✓ Are courteous and cooperative	✓ Competitive, Aggressive, Uncooperative
✓ Give you and others the time needed to see and respond to situations	✓ Decrease the amount of time one needs to see & understand actions
✓ Reduce anxiety & stress	✓ Require reaction rather than response
✓ Reduce risk to yourself and others	✓ Increase stress and anxiety
	✓ Increase risk to yourself and others

Brainstorm: List options drivers have to communicate their options.

Signal, headlights, brake lights, reverse lights, horn, hand signals, speed, lane position

HAZARD RECOGNITION

What is a hazard?

Anything That Blocks Your View. & Anything That Blocks a Path.

Most crashes involve line-of-sight and/or path-of-travel problems that the driver doesn't FIND or sees so late there's not enough time or space to SOLVE the problem!

Line-of-Sight Problems: Environment & Other Vehicles	Path-of-Travel Problems: Environment & Other Traffic
Examples:	**Examples:**
Bushes, trees fences elevated terrain, parked vehicles, stopped vehicle, adverse conditions	Red light, stop sign, yield sign, slow/ stopped vehicles, parked vehicles, pedestrians, animals

Zone Locations

Line-of-sight and path-of-travel problems/hazards can be found in any zone location.

✓ Those problems limit your lane position and speed control options.

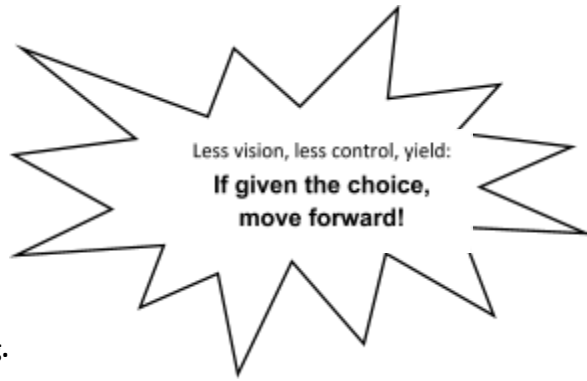
✓ When there are no problems you have lots of options.

Lane Position

Speed Control Option

Accelerate
Same speed
Decelerate
Cover brake
Apply brake

BACKING



Backing presents more risk than moving forward. Why?

1. **Vision**
   - Vehicle blind area is much larger to the rear.
   - Harder to visual monitor what is happening on both sides of the car.
2. **Control**
   - The vehicle is much harder to steer while you are backing.
   - Back tires don't turn, requires more space to move.
3. **You are required to yield to other vehicles and pedestrians while backing.**

Reducing risk while backing:

Get the best possible vision and control when backing!

1. **360 check**
   - Before moving your vehicle, do a 360 search.
   - Check your mirrors and rear view camera too (if you have one).
   - Check for traffic, pedestrians and objects around your car.
2. **When moving in reverse, <u>most</u> of your vision should be directed out the rear window.**
   - Target out the rear window like when moving forward.
3. **Position yourself in the seat for the best vision and best control.**
   - Place left hand on the 12 o'clock position on steering wheel.
   - Place your right arm on the back of the seat and turn around so you can look directly through the rear window.
4. **Keep your head on a swivel**
   - Make quick glances to the front, both sides, and mirrors until you stop the vehicle.
5. **Keep it slow**
   - Unless necessary, stay off the gas!!
   - Keep foot on the brake pedal and adjust pressure to control speed.
     - Inching vs. walking pace
   - Moving slowly allows you to monitor what is going on all around your car.

Twisting around to look out the back window may not be the most comfortable position when seated in the car. We don't back too often or for that long. "Most collisions happen because the driver fails to see what is happening!"

6. **Yield**
   - Stop before sidewalks or entering the road. Look for pedestrians and traffic.

Rear Reference Point: Stop before line/ curb

Depending on what type of vehicle you drive, you can find the rear reference point a couple different ways!

- Curb appears to be in the middle of the back door.
- Lean forward, look over left shoulder. The curb will appear in corner of window.
- Side mirror: Curb will appear right behind rear tire.

- **If you have line-of-sight blockage… creep back until you can see. Stop again to check traffic.**

Backing Turns

Palming the wheel: Press your palm against the top of the steering wheel and pull the steering wheel down and around.

Turn the wheel the way you want to turn. Back Right–Turn Right / Back Left–Turn Left

Backing onto street

- Back around the corner close enough to the edge of the road so you don't disrupt traffic flow.
- Stay within 18 inches of the curb or edge of the road.

Pivot Point: Curb lines up with the corner of the rear window post. This is where you will begin turning the wheel.

✓ Trust your spot: The body the vehicle blocks your view of the ground around you. A good pivot point will keep you close.

<u>Before</u> turning the wheel

- Check the front swing of the vehicle, so you do not strike anything.

Control your speed!

- Move at inching pace and turn the wheel fully.
  ✓ Most of your vision should be directed back with glances to the front and sides!

Straightening the wheel

When the wheel is fully turned in either direction, counter-steer back to the top of the steering wheel twice.

When you almost parallel with the roadway, straighten wheel.

- Left hand in the 12 o'clock position and target out the rear window.

Turning around: U & Y Turn: Illegal when the turn cannot be made safely or anywhere a sign prohibits it.

U- Turn:

Illegal when the turn cannot be made safely or anywhere a sign prohibits it.

- Low traffic areas, mid-block.
- SMOG

Y- Turn: Narrow streets

- SMOG
- Turn left to curb
- Backup to right
- Shift to drive
- Check traffic and go.