At Intersections with Pedestrian Signals

Busy streets often have timed crossing signals to indicate when pedestrians have the right-of-way. In these situations, you should only cross when you see the “walk” sign.

At Intersections without Pedestrian Signals

Regardless of whether or not crosswalks are painted onto the street, drivers must yield right-of-way to pedestrians when:

- The driver is at a stop sign or flashing red light and the pedestrian is on the driver’s half of the street.
- The driver is turning left or right with a red or a green light.
- The pedestrian enters the street before the driver’s light changes to green.

Shovel the Sidewalk for Safe Winter Walking

The Illinois Snow and Ice Removal Act explains that anyone making a good faith effort to remove snow and ice “shall not be liable for any personal injuries allegedly caused by the snowy or icy condition of the sidewalk…”

At Mid-block Crosswalks

Drivers must yield to pedestrians crossing at marked mid-block crosswalks, even when there is no other traffic control signal present.
Driver Responsibilities

- Exercise “due care” to avoid hitting pedestrians, regardless of right-of-way.
- Do not pass another vehicle that has stopped to let a pedestrian cross.
- When exiting driveways and alleys, approach sidewalk-crossings slowly and yield to pedestrians.
- Park Responsibly. Do not park on the sidewalk, blocking crosswalks or curb ramps.

Pedestrian Responsibilities

- **DO NOT** dart suddenly into traffic. Give vehicles a reasonable time to respond.
- When crossing streets, alleys, or driveways, look left, right and then left again for vehicles
- Only cross in designated locations. If you must cross at an undesignated location yield right-of-way to vehicles.
- Try to make eye contact; this helps you to determine if the driver has seen you.

The Illinois Pedestrian Guide has been brought to you by the Illinois Department of Transporation Division of Traffic Safety and the Center for Neighborhood Technology.

Did you know?
For millions, driving is not an option. Approximately 30% of people are either too young, do not have access to a car, choose not to drive or have a condition that precludes their driving.

Often overlooked, walking is the most common, healthy and affordable way to get around.

This guide explains what both pedestrians and drivers need to do to keep Illinois walking safely.