



“SAFE DAYS” of Summer

TRAVEL SAFETY

“Intersections”

INTERSECTION SAFETY

An intersection is the **most dangerous point** on any street or highway. The three major contributing factors to crashes at intersection are:

- ✓ Delayed perception
- ✓ Speed that is too fast for conditions and
- ✓ False assumptions



DELAYED PERCEPTION

Delayed perception occurs when a person is distracted or confused by other competing hazards, such as watching pedestrians or looking for street signs, while the ultimate hazard rapidly develops.

SPEED

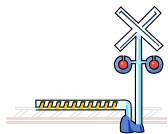
Drivers who do not slow down at intersections risk a serious crash. They are traveling so fast by the time they perceive the hazard that the point of escape has passed.

FALSE ASSUMPTIONS

A large number of drivers become involved in intersection crashes because they wrongfully assume the other driver will act a certain way. For example, a flashing turn signal does not necessarily mean that the vehicle will make a turn.

Use the following driving suggestions to help avoid crashes at intersections:

- ✓ Match speed and visibility. Always be able to stop your vehicle short of the intersection.
- ✓ Resist distractions. Keep your eyes moving and repeatedly look in all directions.
- ✓ Do not assume anything! Just because you have the right of way, or think you do, does not mean the other driver will yield to you. **Do not risk your life for the right of way.** The stakes are too high and the odds are against you!



RAILROAD CROSSINGS

Remember that railroad crossings are intersections. Remember the three safety rules for rails. Stop, look, and listen. Rail crossing gates are there to help prevent crashes – never drive around one. **THINK AND DRIVE DEFENSIVELY.**