

Drop Off and Pick Up at School

- Always obey posted speed limits and other traffic laws
- Follow pick-up and drop-off procedures using the schools traffic patterns
- Be patient and understand that walkers, bicyclists, and school buses are trying to exit the school too
- Cooperate with crossing guards, school patrols, and law enforcement
- Never talk on your cell phone or engage in other distractions while driving
- Act as if you would want people to act if it were your neighborhood
- Obey 'Busses Only' signs
- Don't block driveways, mailboxes, disabled parking spaces, or fire hydrants, and don't park on lawns
- Park in designated areas if you have to leave your vehicle
- Never park in designated fire lane



Choose **Safety** for Life★



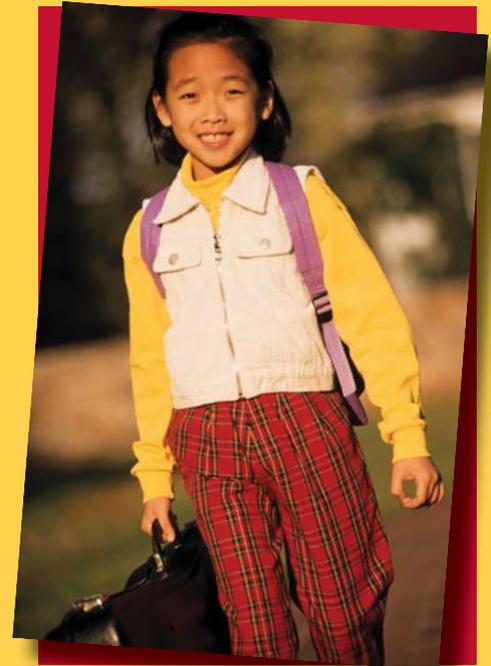
Montgomery County Government
Department of Transportation
Safe Routes to School Program
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Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Transportation

Safe Routes to School Program

Encouraging our children to walk and bike to school



Guidelines for Your Child's Safety While Traveling To and From School

Why Safe Routes to School?

Safer Routes

Safe Routes to School programs help communities create safer walking and biking routes in the vicinity of schools so parents are comfortable allowing their children to walk and bike to school.

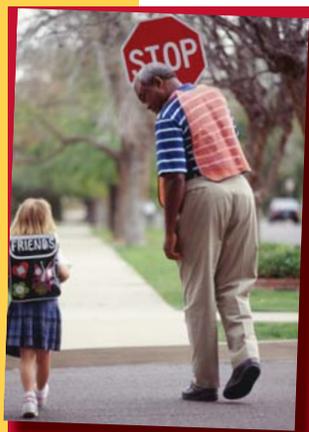
Healthier Children

In the past decade, the number of active children in the United States has decreased and the number of overweight children has increased. To reverse this trend Safe Routes to School programs encourage children to be more active by walking and biking to school.

Cleaner Environment

As more children walk and bicycle to school, traffic volume and congestion decreases. Reducing the number of vehicles in the vicinity of schools reduces the risk of crashes, improves air quality and decreases health problems such as asthma.

Walking and riding your bike to school each day is a great way to get exercise. It is good for your heart, lungs, muscles, brain, and your whole body.



Safe Walking Practices

WALK a safe route!

- Use crosswalks and sidewalks where available; if no sidewalk is available walk in the street as far to the left as possible, facing the oncoming cars.
- Obey traffic signals, walk/don't walk signals, and crossing guards at all times.
- Stop at the curb or edge of road and look left, look right, and then look left again before crossing the street.
- Do not walk in between vehicles and/or school busses.
- Wear bright or light colored clothing in bad weather or darkness and be extra cautious.
- Walk with friends and do not talk to strangers.
- Use pedestrian pushbuttons to activate/extend the walk signal.
- Make eye contact with drivers so they see you. Never assume they do.

Safe Biking Practices

BIKE a safe route!

- Wear a properly-fitted helmet.
- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic – remember you are a vehicle too!
- Obey traffic signals and crossing guards at all times.
- Stop at the curb or edge of road and look left, look right, and then look left again before crossing the street.
- Do not ride in between vehicles and/or school busses.
- Wear bright or light colored clothing in bad weather or darkness and be extra cautious.
- Watch for cars coming out of driveways. Make eye contact with the driver.
- Use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- Wear reflectors and keep your bike well-maintained.