



Did YOU know?

Strange Days

Traffic and behavior patterns are altered when a state of emergency exists. Apparatus operators need to recognize the changes that effect the population also effect driving conditions.

Lots of people are home and the weather is nice. People are outdoors getting fresh air and burning off energy. This means increased potential for fire apparatus to encounter pedestrians in the street, between parked cars, and in driveways.

Traffic congestion is low. The temptation to increase your speed in the absence of traffic needs to be tempered with fact that sight distances created by the design of the road are still a limiting factor. Recognize that motorists around you also see those open lanes and will increase their speed. Watch those open lanes for cross traffic at intersections!

People are distracted—mentally and emotionally. When Maslow's Hierarchy is being threatened people will lose their focus on driving or walking. Be ready for your apparatus to encounter distracted, desperate, and selfish drivers and pedestrians.

