

Are you part of the solution or the problem?



- Vehicles must stop when the bus displays flashing red warning lights and extends the stop signal arm (B). Vehicles may not pass until the flashing red lights and signals are turned off.
- Vehicles traveling in the **same** direction as the bus are always required to stop.
- Never pass on the right side of the bus, where children enter or exit. This is illegal and can have tragic results.

Helpful Resources

National Association for Pupil Transportation
Website: napt.org
(800) 989-NAPT

National Association of Governor's Highway Safety Representatives
Website: www.naghsr.org
(202) 789-0942

National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services
Website: www.nasdpts.org
1-800-585-0340

National Highway Transportation Safety Administration
Website: www.nhtsa.dot.gov
1-888-327-4236

BE A PART OF A NATIONAL SOLUTION

PROJECT STOP! SCHOOL BUS!

Newport News Public Schools
Pupil Transportation Department

Minute Man Task Force

Newport News Police Department

Brochure courtesy of Newport News
Police Department Community
Programs Division
(757) 928-4295



Stop! School Bus!

IT'S THE LAW!

A person shall be guilty of reckless driving who fails to stop, when approaching from **any** direction, any school bus which is stopped on any highway or school driveway for the purpose of taking on or discharging children, the elderly, mentally or physically handicapped persons, and to remain stopped until all such persons are clear of the highway or school driveway and the bus is put in motion. The driver of the vehicle, however, need not stop when approaching a school bus if such school bus is stopped on the other roadway of a divided highway, on an access road, or on a driveway when such other roadway, access road, or driveway is separated from the roadway on which he is driving by a physical barrier or an unpaved area. The driver of a vehicle also need not stop when approaching a school bus which is loading or discharging passengers from or onto property immediately adjacent to a school if such driver is directed by law enforcement officer or other duly authorized uniformed school crossing guard to pass such school bus . . .

What does this mean?

- It is **illegal** and very **dangerous** to pass a stopped school bus when the sign located on the side of the bus is extended, or the warning lights are flashing.
- Warning lights or stop signs mean students are getting on or off the bus – **STOP!**
- You must always **STOP** for flashing red lights if you are approaching a stopped school bus from any direction at an intersection.
- **STOP** for flashing warning lights or extended stop signs even in the center turning lane on undivided highways or streets.

It's a mistake they can't afford you to make

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, children are at the greatest risk when they are getting on or off the school bus. Most of the children killed in bus related crashes are pedestrians, five to seven years old, who are getting on or off the bus. They are hit by the school bus OR by motorists illegally passing a stopped bus.



**CHILDREN EXPECT VEHICLES TO
STOP FOR THEM AT THE SCHOOL
BUS STOP**

WHAT CAN HAPPEN?

Legally you can:

- Have legal fee involved with hiring an attorney;
- Miss time from work for court;
- Be subject to a penalty of \$250;
- Be found guilty of a Class 1 Misdemeanor, which carries a penalty of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of up to \$2500;
- Lose up to 6 points off your driver's license

Civilly, you can:

- Be subject to a civil lawsuit by the family of any child you might injure or kill;
- Have legal fees involved with hiring an attorney;
- Miss time from work for court

Personally, you can:

- Hit and kill, or seriously injure, an innocent child. How would you feel if you had to live your whole life with the knowledge that YOU killed someone?