Get to Know the Flashing Yellow

The Montana Department of Transportation is installing flashing yellow left-turn arrows at intersections throughout the state. The signal directs motorists to turn left when there’s a safe gap in traffic.

**WHY?** Flashing yellow arrow signals keep traffic flowing smoothly through intersections and lead to fewer crashes.

**HOW?** When you see a flashing yellow arrow at an intersection where you want to make a left turn, simply:

- **Slow down** and enter the intersection with caution.
- **Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.**
- **Turn left** when it’s safe.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Left-turn crashes are often the most severe crashes at intersections.

**THE MORE YOU KNOW**

- The flashing yellow arrow is always followed by a steady yellow arrow, or a green arrow; never by a red light. This allows motorists to anticipate when a flashing yellow arrow will turn red.

- Oncoming traffic has a green light while the yellow arrow is flashing, so drivers must determine if there is an adequate gap in traffic before turning left.

- Motorists are always required to yield to pedestrians.

- The Montana Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration have adopted the flashing yellow arrow as a national standard.

**TO LEARN MORE:**

WWW.MDT.MT.GOV/VISIONZERO/ROADS/FLASHINGYELLOWARROWS.SHTML
What do the arrows mean?

STEADY RED ARROW
- Drivers must stop and may not enter the intersection.

STEADY YELLOW ARROW
- Drivers are warned the turning signal is turning red.
- Do not enter the intersection if you can stop safely.
- Vehicles in the intersection should safely complete their turn.

FLASHING YELLOW ARROW
- Slow down and enter the intersection with caution.
- Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
- Turn left when it’s safe.

STEADY GREEN ARROW
- Drivers making a turn have the right-of-way.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Human Resources and Occupational Safety Division, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-9229. Those using a TTY may call 1 (800) 335-7592 or through the Montana Relay Service at 711.