

Back to School (Bus) Awareness

KNOW AND OBEY SCHOOL BUS LAWS

If you fail to stop for a school bus with RED LIGHTS FLASHING & STOP ARM EXTENDED it is chargeable as a simple misdemeanor punishable by a \$ 150-300 fine, (includes surcharge and court costs). Imprisonment in a county jail for 10-90 days, or both. For class one misdemeanor traffic offense, the sentencing guidelines are as follows: a penalty of between \$300-\$1000, Imprisonment in a county jail for 10 days to 1 year, or both. (If committed within five years of first offense).



CAUTION: The majority of children killed in pupil transportation are not killed on the bus, but OUTSIDE the bus. Many are struck by motorists who fail to stop for the flashing red lights and extended stop arm. This area around the stopped school bus is often referred to as the "DANGER ZONE."

AMBER LIGHTS



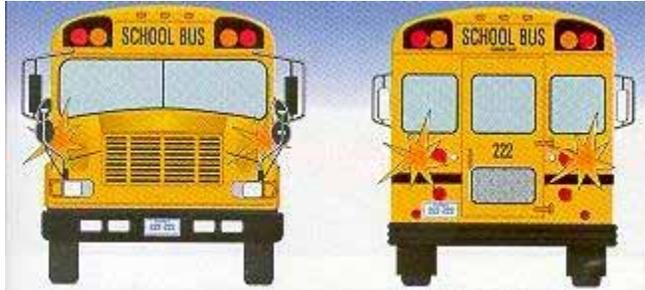
A school bus driver activates the WARNING amber signals atop the bus 200 feet before stopping. When the amber lights flash, you should immediately prepare to stop your vehicle.

Red Lights and Stop Arm



You **MUST STOP** for a school bus when the red lights atop the bus are flashing and the stop arm is extended; this means that children are getting on or off the bus. Stop at least 20 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the lights are turned off.

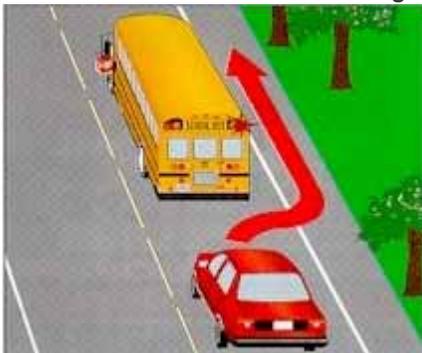
HAZARD WARNING LIGHTS



Always exercise caution when approaching a stopped school bus. You are not required to stop when the hazard warning lights are flashing but should proceed with caution.

COMMON MISTAKES BY MOTORISTS

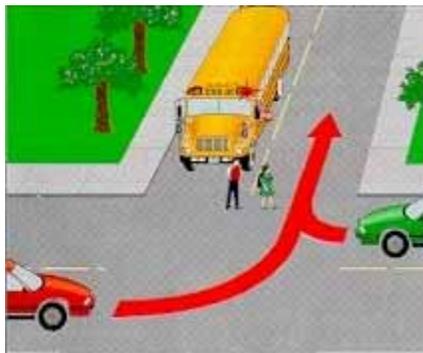
These are all violations that endanger our children.



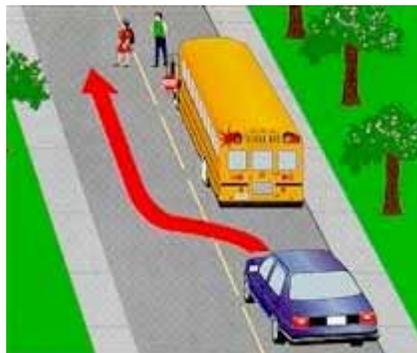
When approaching a school bus from behind with flashing red lights and extended stop arm you may NOT pass the bus on EITHER side.



On a two lane roadway you must stop for a stopped school bus displaying red lights and extended stop arm.



You are turning from any lane and from any direction onto a street where the school bus is stopped, the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended. Stay stopped in your original lane, before the turn is made. Only proceed after the lights are turned off and the stop arm is withdrawn.



On a two lane roadway you must stop for a stopped school bus displaying red lights and extended stop arm.