

In the News
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The Daily Journal

Safety tips during Daylight Saving Time

Number of
pedestrian
fatalities is on
the rise

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the number of pedestrian fatalities is on the rise. In 2005 the number rose to 4,881 from 4,675 in 2004.

Fatal pedestrian collisions occur more often during periods of darkness. Pedestrian crashes are most prevalent during morning and afternoon peak periods, when the traffic levels are highest and visibility at the lowest. Fatal pedestrian crashes typically peak later in the day, between 5 and 11 p.m., where darkness and alcohol use are factors; something to keep in mind as Daylight Saving Time approaches.

The report concluded that the need to reduce pedestrian deaths and injuries while promoting increased walking continues to be an important goal for the engineering profession.

Pedestrian Safety
What can we do to better

Printing imperfections

insure pedestrian safety? Just as motorists are advised to drive defensively, when you are near vehicle traffic, walk defensively. Some suggestions are:

- 1.) Use crosswalks and obey the signaling cycle.
- 2.) Even with a green walk signal you can still be at risk when crossing a street so look left, right, and left again for oncoming traffic before stepping off a curb.
- 3.) Give yourself plenty of time.
- 4.) Be sure that drivers can see you. Bright clothing may be helpful, particularly reflective apparel at night.

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