HAWAII Driver’s Manual

INCLUDES Complete Test Questions and Answers From State of Hawaii Dept. Of Transportation

$4.65
DRIVER LICENSING OFFICES

City and County of Honolulu
City Square, 1199 Dillingham Boulevard, Phone 532-7730
Downtown, Fort Street Mall (renewals and duplicates), Phone 532-2503
Waianae, 87-670 Farrington Highway (Monday & Wednesday), Phone 696-6648
Pearl City, 1100 Waimano Home Road, Phone 453-2400
Wahiawa, 330 North Cane Street, Phone 621-7255
Kapolei, 1000 Uluohia Street, Phone 692-5100
Hawaii Kai Town Center, 6600 Kalanianaole Hwy (renewals and duplicates,
T-S 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Phone 395-7180
Windward Mall, (renewals and duplicates, M-F 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), Phone 233-2303
Hours of Operation . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Testing . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Closed Sat., Sun., and Holidays

County of Hawaii
Hilo Police Station, 349 Kapiolani Street, Phone 961-2222
Kona Center, 75-5722 Hanama Place, Phone 327-3580
Laupahoehoe Police Station, Laupahoehoe, Phone 962-2120
Kau Police Station, Naalehu, Phone 939-2520
Waimea Police Station, Waimea, Phone 887-3087
Kohala Police Station, Kapaau, Phone 889-6540
Hamakua Police Station, Honokaa, Phone 775-7533
Hours of Operation . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sat., Sun., and Holidays

County of Maui
Maui Mall, Kahului, Phone 270-7363
Lahaina Police Station, Lahaina, Phone 667-9354
Hana Police Station, Hana, Phone 248-8254, Tues., & Thurs., 8-11 a.m.
Kihei, Azeka Shopping Center, Phone 875-7415 (Mon.-Fri. 8-10:45 a.m., 12-3 p.m.)
Driver Licenses, County Complex, Kaunakakai (Island of Molokai), Phone 553-3430
Lanai Gym, Lanai City (Island of Lanai), Phone 565-7878
Hours of Operation (except where noted) . . . .7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sat., Sun., and Holidays

County of Kauai
Lihue Civic Center, Kapule Building, 4444 Rice Street, Suite 480, Lihue,
Phone 241-6550
Hours of Operation . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sat., Sun., and Holidays

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274 Puuhale Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819, Phone 847-5310
MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Aloha!

You are about to learn the skills and assume the responsibilities of driving on the roadways in our state. As you drive I ask that you obey our traffic laws and develop safe driving habits. Please keep in mind that you have a legal and moral responsibility for the safety of others.

I encourage you to show your “aloha” spirit when you drive. Be patient, courteous and watch the road at all times. The information in this manual will teach you to be a safe and respectful driver. Please read it carefully and apply that knowledge daily.

By becoming a good driver other motorists will follow your lead.

Please be safe and enjoy driving in our beautiful state.

Mahalo,

LINDA LINGLE
Governor of Hawai‘i
RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES and WEBSITES

1. State of Hawaii Department of Transportation
   Motor Vehicle Safety Office
   www.hawaii.gov/dot/highways/hwy-v/mvso.htm
   (Program Coordination)

2. City and County of Honolulu
   Department of Customer Service
   www.co.honolulu.hi.us/csd/
   (Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration)

3. Maui County
   Department of Finance
   www.co.maui.hi.us/departments/motorvehicles/dmvDriver.htm
   (Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration)

4. Hawaii County
   Police Department
   www.hawaiipolice.com
   (Driver Licensing)

5. Hawaii County
   Department of Finance
   www.hawaii-county.com/directory/dir_finance.htm
   (Vehicle Registration)

6. Kauai County
   Department of Finance
   www.kauai.gov.
   (Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration)

NOTE: For further information see inside front and back covers.
INTRODUCTION

This manual is designed for use as a guide to help you become a safer driver and to help you qualify for a Hawaii driver’s license. The information contained herein does not supersede either state laws or county ordinances or any duly adopted rule or regulation.

Additional manuals are sold at the driver licensing offices.

A separate **Motorcycle Operator Manual**, DOTH2053, is available to provide more comprehensive coverage of laws and operating techniques concerning motorcycles.

A separate **Driver’s Manual for Commercial Vehicle Driver Licensing**, DOTH2044, is available to prepare drivers to pass the knowledge and skill tests to get a commercial driver’s license.
# STATE OF HAWAII DRIVER’S MANUAL

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<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned Vehicle</td>
<td>Any vehicle left unattended on the highway for more than 24 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Vehicle</td>
<td>Any vehicle of the police and fire departments or federal agency having similar functions and any federal, state and county ambulance and any private vehicle designated by ordinance, properly equipped with a blue or red flashing light and warning sound system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>A device with two or three wheels having a diameter of 16&quot; or greater propelled by human power.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus</td>
<td>Every motor vehicle designed for carrying more than ten passengers and used for the transportation of persons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business District</td>
<td>The territory contiguous to and including a highway when within any six hundred feet along such highway there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes which occupy at least three hundred feet of frontage on one side or three hundred feet collectively on both sides of the highway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>A motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used in commerce to transport passengers or property with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more pounds or a design to carry 16 or more occupants or used to carry hazardous materials in placardable amounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Driver’s License</td>
<td>A license issued by a state or other jurisdiction in accordance with the standards contained in 49 CFR Part 383 to an individual which authorizes the individual to operate a class of commercial motor vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosswalk</td>
<td>That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the transversable roadway; or any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driver</td>
<td>Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Vehicle Weight Rating</td>
<td>The weight of the vehicle plus the vehicle’s load-carrying capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway</td>
<td>The entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Safety Zone The area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is protected or is so marked as to be plainly visible.

NOTE: Additional definitions may be found in The Statewide Traffic Code, HRS 291C.
CHAPTER 1
LICENSING OF DRIVERS

PERSONS EXEMPTED FROM LICENSE
YOU ARE EXEMPTED FROM OBTAINING A HAWAII DRIVER’S LICENSE:
1. When you are employed by and driving a motor vehicle owned by the federal government that does not fit the definition of a commercial motor vehicle (federal fire fighters and active duty military are exempt) and possess a valid driver’s license issued by an agency of the federal government.
2. When you are thirteen years of age or older and operating any road machine, farm tractor or implement of husbandry temporarily on a highway.
3. When you are at least eighteen years of age and have in your possession a valid driver’s license equivalent to a Hawaii Class 1, 2 or 3 driver’s license issued to you in any state of the United States, District of Columbia, The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, a province of the Dominion of Canada, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Compact foreign drivers’ licenses accompanied by an International Driving Permit issued in the foreign jurisdiction are valid for one year from the date of your first port-of-entry into the United States.
4. When you are a non-resident at least twenty-one years of age and have in your possession a valid commercial driver’s license issued to you in any state of the United States, District of Columbia or a province of the Dominion of Canada.

NOTE: For foreign compact jurisdictions contact the county examiner of drivers.

WHO CANNOT BE LICENSED
You cannot be licensed to operate a motor vehicle in Hawaii:
1. During the suspension period when your license has been suspended or revoked by a court.
2. For a period of two years after you have been convicted of drunk driving while unlicensed.
3. Unless you have successfully passed the required examination.
4. When you are required to but fail to comply with the financial responsibility laws.
5. When the examiner of drivers has good cause to believe that you by reason of physical or mental disability would not be able to operate a motor vehicle with safety upon the highways.
6. When you are between 16 and 18 years of age without consent from the parent(s) or guardian specified in legal custody documents.
7. When you are under 16 years of age.
8. When you are physically or mentally disqualified by law.
9. When you have outstanding traffic citations.
IDENTIFICATION

Anyone applying for an instruction permit or a new license must show proof of social security number, name and age. Acceptable documents showing full name and date of birth include certificates of birth, passports, military IDs and Immigration and Naturalization Service documents. Hospital issued certificates and baptismal certificates are not accepted.

All identification documents must be originals or certified copies. Photocopies will not be accepted.

TYPES OF LICENSES

Instruction Permit – An instruction permit allows you to operate a motor vehicle when supervised by another driver who is at least 21 years of age and who is licensed to drive that type of vehicle. In all vehicles except motorcycles, the licensed driver must sit in the right front seat. You must be at least 15 1/2 years to be eligible for an instruction permit. If you are under age 18, refer to the section Driving by Minors.

Provisional license – If you are under the age of 18, you must operate on a provisional license for at least 6 months before being eligible for a class 3 driver’s license. Refer to the section Driving by Minors.

Moped license (class 1) – You must have a class 1 license to operate a moped on Hawaii highways. You must pass a special knowledge test and an off-street skills test. Refer to the Motorcycle Operator Manual available at any driver licensing office.

Motorcycle license (class 2) - You must have a class 2 license to operate a motorcycle on Hawaii highways. You must pass a special knowledge test and an off-street skills test. Refer to the Motorcycle Operator Manual available at any driver licensing office.

Driver’s License (class 3) – To get a class 3 license, you must be at least 17 years old. If under the age of 18, you must complete a graduated licensing program that will allow you to develop your driving skills over time as you gain experience and maturity. Refer to the section Driving by Minors.

Larger Class License – Other class licenses are required if you drive certain types of vehicles. You must be at least 21 years old before applying for any of these licenses. Each class or endorsement requires special tests. Refer to the section Vehicles 15,001-26,000 Pounds GVWR. Refer to the Driver’s Manual for Commercial Vehicle Driver Licensing to obtain a commercial driver’s license.

OBTAINING A DRIVER’S LICENSE OR INSTRUCTION PERMIT

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

You will be given the following tests when you apply for a driver’s license or instruction permit as required:

1. Rules of the Road
2. Vision
3. Recognition of traffic control devices.

You must pass these tests before you are permitted to take the driver performance road test.
On successful completion of licensing procedures, you will be issued a driver’s license similar to above.

The license contains information including your driver license number, date of birth, dates of issuance and expiration, physical characteristics such as hair color and sex, class of license and endorsements indicating what type of vehicle the driver is licensed to operate, and any license restriction, such as requirement for corrective lenses.

The license also indicates if the driver is under 21 years old, a commercial driver and if he or she has consented to be an organ donor or has an advance healthcare directive.

DRIVING BY MINORS

Information on Hawaii’s graduated licensing program is at http://www.state.hi.us/dot/publicaffairs/index.htm

- Persons younger than 18 years of age must provide written consent from their parent(s) or legal guardian unless married or emancipated.
- The minimum age to acquire an instruction permit is 15 1/2 years.
- You must pass the preliminary examinations by taking a vision screening test and a rules of the road test.
- You may operate a motor vehicle upon any highway with an instruction permit only when accompanied by a licensed driver at least 21 years of age. If between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., you must be accompanied by your parent or guardian.
• All occupants must use safety belts or child restraints.
• You must hold a valid instruction permit for a period of 180 days before applying for a provisional license.
• The minimum age to obtain a provisional license is 16 years.
• You must complete a State certified driver’s education course and possess the classroom and behind the wheel certificates.
• You must pass a road test.
• Your provisional license allows you to transport only one person under age 18 who is not a household member.
• With a provisional license, you may drive between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. only when accompanied by a licensed parent or guardian unless driving to and from employment or driving to and from the driver’s school-authorized activity. During these hours, you may not transport more than one person under 18 unless accompanied by your parent or guardian.
• All occupants must use safety belts or child restraints.
• You must hold a provisional license for six months before applying for a driver’s license.
• The minimum age to obtain a driver’s license is 17 years.

DRIVER LICENSE CATEGORIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Type of Vehicle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mopeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Motorcycles and motorscooters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 15,000 pounds or less and vehicles designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 15,001–26,000 pounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (CDL)</td>
<td>Any combination of vehicles with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more; GVWR of vehicles towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (CDL)</td>
<td>Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more, or if the GVWR of the towed vehicle is not in excess of 10,000 pounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (CDL)</td>
<td>Any single vehicle or combination of vehicles that meets neither the definition of A or B and designed to transport 16 or more passengers or used to haul hazardous materials requiring placards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Endorsement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Type of Vehicle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H (CDL)</td>
<td>Vehicles hauling hazardous materials in placardable amounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T (CDL)</td>
<td>Vehicles towing double and triple trailers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P (CDL)</td>
<td>Vehicles designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N (CDL)</td>
<td>Tank vehicles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X (CDL)</td>
<td>Tank vehicles hauling hazardous materials in placardable amounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S (CDL)</td>
<td>School bus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR)** means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of a single vehicle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>Commercial Motor Vehicle</th>
<th>15,001–</th>
<th>15,000 lbs. or less with 26,000 lbs.</th>
<th>15 or fewer occupants</th>
<th>M/C</th>
<th>M/S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
DRIVER PERFORMANCE TEST
You must be accompanied to the testing station by a licensed driver and provide a vehicle in safe operating condition with a current safety inspection certificate and no-fault insurance card. All vehicle safety defects must be corrected prior to taking the test.
You will not be asked to violate any laws. No tricks will be used. Passengers are not permitted during the tests.

MOTORCYCLE/MOTORSCOOTER/MOPED EXAMINATION (CATEGORY 1 & 2)
You will be required to pass a special written examination for motorcycles/motor-scooter and an off-street skills test. It includes questions on rules of the road, highway signs and the operation of motorcycles. Refer to the Motorcycle Operator Manual available at any field office.

LIGHT MOTOR VEHICLE TEST (CATEGORY 3 LICENSE)
The following test is administered for a Category 3 driver’s license (cars and light-weight trucks (15,000 pounds GVWR or less) and buses designed to carry 15 or fewer occupants).
You will be required to satisfactorily demonstrate your ability to:
• start your vehicle and drive through a business district
• demonstrate parallel parking
• demonstrate while driving, proper turning, starting, stopping procedures and signals
• be able to start on a slight grade
• demonstrate your knowledge of and obey traffic laws and ordinances and safe driving practices.

VEHICLES 15,001–26,000 POUNDS GVWR (CATEGORY 4 LICENSE)
You will be required to pass the skills test (vehicle inspection test, basic control skills test and road test) described in the Driver’s Manual for Commercial Vehicle Driver Licensing. Copies of this manual are available at any field office.

LICENSE RENEWAL
You may renew your driver’s license at any driver licensing office in Hawaii. Your license can be renewed within six months before the expiration date. EVERY HAWAII STATE DRIVER’S LICENSE IS VOID AFTER THE EXPIRATION DATE. THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD. Your license may be renewed within a year after the expiration date. You must follow the procedure for an original license if you fail to renew your driver’s license during the renewal period. Before your license is renewed, you must pass a vision test. You may also be required to pass a road test. You may renew your license twice consecutively by mail but must present yourself before the examiner of drivers on the third renewal.
DUPLICATE LICENSE

You may apply for a duplicate license whenever your license is lost, stolen or mutilated. Proper identification is required upon application.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR NAME ON DRIVER’S LICENSE

Whenever you change your residence address you must, within 30 days, notify the county examiner of drivers in writing of your old and new address, your name and driver’s license number.

A change of name requires that you appear in person at the office of the appropriate examiner of drivers within 30 days with proof of the change.

RESTRICTED LICENSE

Driver licenses can be issued to individuals who have disabilities or reduced capability to drive safely in all types of traffic conditions. This means that drivers who have experienced medical problems such as major surgery, amputation, or serious illnesses do not necessarily have to give up driving. Additionally, drivers who experience diminished reflexes or vision problems should know that it does not always result in the loss of their driving privileges.

The driver’s licensing office can review a driver’s medical report provided by the driver’s health care provider and administer vision and skills tests that measure a driver’s functional ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Once this assessment has been completed, a license with restrictions may be issued which will permit the driver to continue driving within the safe limits of the driver’s ability.

Only when it has been determined that a driver cannot operate a vehicle safely under any condition, is the driver license withdrawn. Often no restrictions are required, but when they are, one or more of the following conditions are specified on the driver license.

- Driver must use corrective lenses when driving.
- Vehicle must be equipped with outside mirror(s).
- Vehicle must be equipped with an automatic transmission.
- Driver may drive during daylight hours only.
- Vehicle must be equipped with full hand equipment.
- Vehicle must be equipped with mechanical signals.
- Driver may drive taxi.
- Vehicle must be equipped with power steering.
- Driver must use a hearing aid when driving.
- Vehicle must be equipped with power brakes.
- Driver must operate vehicles without airbrakes.
- Vehicle must be equipped with a steering knob.
- Driver may drive only with a cushion.
- Special restrictions may reflect the driver’s special situations such as the need for a medical review periodically, automatic transmission in a commercial motor vehicle, etc.
- Driver may operate only three-wheel motorcycles.
- Driver must wear a prosthetic aid when driving.
- Driver’s driving is limited to employment purposes.
- Driver may operate only commercial motor vehicles under 15,000 pounds GVWR (limited - other).
- Driver may operate commercial motor vehicles only in intrastate commerce (CDL intrastate only).
- Driver may operate commercial motor vehicles but not transport passengers in certain sit-
• Driver may operate commercial motor vehicle but not tractor-trailer combinations (except tractor-trailer).

NATIONAL DRIVER’S REGISTRY SERVICE

Information on applicants for an original or renewed Hawaii driver’s license is forwarded to the National Driver Register Program, Washington, D.C. If the records of the NDR show that you have had a license suspended or revoked in another state or D.C., a Hawaii driver’s license will not be issued.

ORGAN DONOR PROGRAM

When you make application for a Hawaii driver’s license or renewal, you may designate that you, pursuant to the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, are a donor of body organs or parts upon your death. Please tell your family about your wish to donate. Their permission to use organs will be requested.

ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE

You may indicate that you have an advance health care directive. In the event of serious illness or an accident in which you cannot speak for yourself, the advance directive states your wishes for health care. Putting “AHCD” on your license will alert medical personnel that you have special instructions. Please tell your family and your doctor that you have completed an advance directive and give copies to them.

DRIVER’S LICENSE FOR MOPEDS

A moped is a two- or three-wheeled device with a motor no larger than two horsepower.

You are required to have a driver’s license (any category) to operate a moped on the public streets and highways.

If you do not have a driver’s license, you may obtain a Category 1 license (mopeds) by following the procedure required for that license category and using your moped for any required performance test.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION
LICENSE DISPLAY

You must have a valid driver’s license with you at all times while operating a motor vehicle or moped, and must show it on demand to a Police Officer.

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

A person charged with a violation of the Hawaii Vehicle Law will be issued a written traffic citation in most cases. Two types of traffic citations are: the less serious “traffic infraction” and the serious “traffic crime.” The less serious traffic offenses will be subject to civil rather than criminal proceedings with such sanctions as fines and driver’s license and vehicle registration stoppers. People receiving traffic infraction citations may pay, write a statement, or appear in person. However, a person receiving traffic crime citations may face the possibility of jail and, therefore, court appearances are required.

If you have a question about your traffic citation, whether it is for a traffic crime or traffic infraction, call the number listed on the citation or the District Court on the island: Kauai 246-3330, Maui 244-2800, Hawaii 961-7470, Oahu 538-5873.
CHAPTER II
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT AND INSPECTION

YOUR CAR MUST HAVE THE ITEMS SHOWN BELOW

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
& STATE OF HAWAII INSURANCE IDENTIFICATION CARD

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Every motor vehicle operated on the highways of the State shall be equipped with brakes, steering, horn, door handles, tires, exhaust system, lights, glass, windshield wipers, odometer, speedometer, bumpers, proper wheel alignment, wheels, wheel lug nuts, fenders, floor pans, hood and hood catches, and gas tank meeting established standards.

ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT

The following motor vehicle equipment is prohibited:
1. A red light showing from the front, or a blue light visible outside of the vehicle, except on authorized emergency vehicles;
2. A bell, exhaust whistle or siren, except on authorized emergency vehicles;
3. A muffler cut-out or by-pass, or a muffler that makes more noise than an original equipment manufacturer muffler.

USE OF APPROVED EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Vehicle equipment items in the following categories must be of a type approved for use in Hawaii:
1. Any exterior lamp or reflector;
2. Any material used for windshields or windows;
3. Hydraulic brake fluid; and
4. Safety belts.
These items may only be used for the purpose for which they are designed.

SAFETY INSPECTION OF VEHICLES

All motor vehicles operated on the public highways must have an official Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection (PMVI), at least once a year, except that ambulances must be
inspected once every six months, and new vehicles do not need to be inspected until two years after their initial inspection on the date that they are first sold.

Many service stations and garages are authorized to conduct PMVIs, also known as safety inspections; issue certificates of inspection; and affix stickers on the right back bumper. A copy of the rules that regulate the inspection program can be viewed at website: www.hawaii.gov/dot/highways/adminrules/ruleshwy.htm.

A Hawaii state automobile insurance identification card is required to pass the inspection. Upon approval, a sticker is affixed to the vehicle and two copies of the inspection certificate are issued to you. One copy as indicated must remain in the vehicle. The back of this copy lists the items that are to be inspected.

IF REPAIRS ARE NEEDED

If any equipment does not pass inspection, you must have it repaired or adjusted. You may have the repairs made at any repair shop of your choice, or do it yourself. You will be given a rejection slip showing the vehicle defects. The rejection slip DOES NOT AUTHORIZE operation of a rejected vehicle upon the highway after the previous inspection certificate has expired.

RECONSTRUCTED VEHICLES

Vehicles which have been modified, rebuilt or altered may be required to comply with county reconstructed vehicle inspection requirements. A bill of sale or receipt is required for all parts that have been added to the vehicle. The inspection will be conducted by a qualified reconstruction inspector. Upon completion of the inspection, you will be issued an emblem indicating compliance. Administrative rules are at www.hawaii.gov/dot/highways/adminrules/ruleshwy.htm. (See appendix inside back cover for county list.)

VEHICLE CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

You are responsible for the condition of the vehicle you are driving even though you may not be the owner of the vehicle. General care and maintenance should be performed regularly by you or by an experienced mechanic. The following information may help you to better understand important parts of your vehicle:

Steering: Your steering wheel should be able to turn smoothly and easily from the maximum right position to the maximum left position and back again. There should be no more than two inches of free play in the steering wheel, if you have power steering (check with the motor running); or 3 inches, if you do not have power steering. Your vehicle should respond quickly to small movements of the steering wheel. The vehicle should not pull to either side, and the wheels should not “shimmy”.

Tires: Don’t take tires for granted. Check them at least once a month. Check the door jamb for the vehicle manufacturer’s recommended pressure and tire size. Proper pressure extends tire life and improves handling. Replace tires that have less than 1/16 inch of tire tread. An easy method of checking tire tread is to use a Lincoln penny. Place the penny upside down within the tread. If the top of Lincoln’s head is visible, the tire needs to be replaced. Also check tires for cuts, bulges, tread separation and uneven wear. Check your spare tire too. If you begin to notice a slight steering wheel vibration or an unusual noise, check to see if you have a tire problem. You can get helpful tire information at: http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/Equipment/Tires/index.html
Brakes: If the brakes can’t stop your vehicle, you shouldn’t make it go. A common brake test is to apply the brakes rather hard at a speed of 4 to 8 mph. The vehicle should not pull to either side. Do this test in a place where you will not require others to do a brake test too. If you have antilock brakes, go to an open area such as a deserted section of a parking lot and try them out so you know what to expect in an emergency situation. You usually need to be going over 10 mph for them to activate. Also, it’s easier to activate ABS on a wet and slippery surface. Practice NOT pumping the brake pedal. For more information about brakes go to:

Directional Signals: Directional signals enable you to communicate with other drivers, so make sure they operate correctly at all times. Any change in the dash light indication reflects improper operation. If the directional signals fail, use hand signals until you can have them repaired.

Brake Lamps: Brake or stop lamps warn other drivers that you are slowing or stopping. Check these lamps frequently to make sure they operate when the brakes are applied.

Tail Lamps and Side Marker Lamps: Tail lamps and side marker lamps warn other drivers of your presence. Check them periodically for proper operation.

Horn: Every vehicle is required to be equipped with a horn in good working condition to give audible warning.

Head Lamps: The head lamps of your vehicle are of critical importance in night driving, in rainy weather, in fog, and while driving through tunnels. They must work properly and be correctly adjusted at all times.

Windshield: The windshield should be free of cracks and breaks that interfere with your vision. The windshield wipers should clean the windshield evenly, without leaving streaks. Windshield washers enable you to clean the windshield while you are driving. Keep the reservoir filled and check the operation frequently.

Rear-View Mirrors: Rear-view mirrors should be adjusted to give you the maximum view to the rear horizon. All mirrors should be maintained in a clean condition and be firmly attached to the vehicle.

Hood Latches: Front opening hoods are equipped with a primary latch and a secondary catch. They should operate properly to insure that the hood will not open and block your vision while you are driving.

Safety Belts: Safety belts help to keep you from being injured and can save your life. Protect yourself, your passengers and others by using safety belts at all times while driving. All front seat occupants are required by law (291-11.6, HRS) to use seat belts. Children under age 4 must be in a child restraint; persons age 4 through 17 must be belted in the rear seats. Air bags must be used in conjunction with seat belts. If your air bag deploys, replace it, because the seat belts in a vehicle designed for air bags will not provide adequate protection without the air bags.

Door Latches: Door latches and locks provide you with safety and security. Be sure all doors latch and lock properly.

Exhaust System: The exhaust system carries exhaust gases to an exit point located to reduce entry of fumes into the passenger compartment and reduces the noise to an acceptable level. To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, keep your exhaust system free of leaks. Replace all defective parts immediately. Replacement mufflers must not allow more noise than the original equipment manufacturer muffler.
CHAPTER III
VEHICLE REGISTRATION, OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTS
AND APPLICATION FOR TITLE

Hawaii law requires that the motor vehicle you operate on the public highways in the State be REGISTERED IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOU OPERATE THE VEHICLE. Similarly, Hawaii law requires that your vehicle must be licensed each year by the county in which you operate the vehicle. Your vehicle must have a current and valid safety inspection certificate before it can be registered. Proof of motor vehicle insurance is required for cars, buses and trucks being inspected, while proof of liability is required for motorcycles being inspected.

FIRST REGISTRATION
Registration of your vehicle provides an official record of its ownership. When you first register a vehicle in Hawaii, it is subject to special requirements. Specifically, your vehicle is subjected to inspection and weighing to properly record (a) its identification number, and (b) its weight.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND TITLE
Registrations and titles are issued by the appropriate agency in each county. (See back cover for listing.) The Hawaii certificate of ownership of title is held by the legal owner or the lien holder until the lien is satisfied (loan on vehicle is paid). The registration is issued to the purchaser who must keep the certificate in the vehicle. Motor vehicle registrations are staggered* and expire annually at the end of the 12th month.

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
Registration renewal applications are mailed to your last recorded address. Any errors you find on the application should be reported promptly to the appropriate county agency.

RENEWAL BY MAIL
You can avoid waiting in line by mailing your application with a check or money order for the exact amount shown on the application under “TOTAL FEE.” Mail to your county agency within ten (10) working days prior to the end of the expiration month. Return both parts of the renewal application. DO NOT DETACH THE STUB.

RENEWAL ONLINE
You may renew your registration online (www.co.honolulu.hi.us) if your vehicle is currently registered in the City and County of Honolulu. Check their website for additional information.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR NAME ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
Whenever the address of the registered owner of a motor vehicle is changed from that stated on the application of the certificate of registration, the registered owner must, within thirty (30) days after the change, notify the appropriate county agency,

*Mau County licenses expire at midnight December 31 of each year and are renewed annually from January 1 to March 31.
in writing of his old and new addresses, along with the vehicle license number, make,  
and vehicle identification number.

Whenever the name of a registered owner of a motor vehicle is changed from that  
shown on the application of the certificate of ownership, the registered owner, shall,  
within thirty (30) days after the change, appear in person at the appropriate county  
agency with proof of change of name, the certificate of ownership properly endorsed  
and the current year’s certificate for such change of name in the records.

**REFUND OF UNEXPIRED REGISTRATION FEE**

Whenever your vehicle is permanently “junked”, stored or shipped out of state,  
apply to the appropriate county agency for a refund of the unexpired fee for the  
balance of the calendar year. The license plates must be surrendered in all cases.  
Bring your certificate of registration and legal ownership certificate. For vehicles  
shipped out of state, bring your shipping receipt. When you store your vehicle a notar-  
zized statement of placing vehicles in storage and an application for refund must be  
submitted.

**U.S. ARMED FORCES MEMBERS EXEMPTION**

When you are a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, on duty at a military installa- 
tion in the State of Hawaii, and are a legal resident of another State, you may register  
your vehicle with that State and are exempt from the payment of the Hawaii Excise  
Tax on motor vehicles brought into Hawaii.

If your vehicle was last registered and titled in another State and currently sub- 
ject to Hawaii State registration, you must submit to the appropriate county agency  
where you are stationed an application together with your vehicle’s out-of-state cert- 
tificate of title and registration, your vehicle’s current Hawaii State certificate of  
motor vehicle safety inspection, a vehicle shipping receipt and a verification of vehi- 
cle identification serial number. In cases of a non-title state, you must present an appli- 
cation together with your certificate of registration and one or more notarized bill(s)  
of sale establishing a chain of ownership; a current Hawaii State vehicle safety inspec- 
tion and a verification of vehicle serial number.

**NEW VEHICLES PURCHASED IN HAWAII**

When you purchase a new vehicle in the State of Hawaii, you must obtain an appli- 
cation form countersigned by the licensed new car dealer certifying the sale of the  
motor vehicle.

**NEW VEHICLES PURCHASED IN ANOTHER JURISDICTION**

The various States require different forms of ownership documents. Hawaii will  
accept the manufacturer’s certificate of origin or a notarized bill of sale.

**NEW VEHICLES PURCHASED IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY**

When you purchase a vehicle in a foreign country, you must obtain a bill of sale  
from the foreign dealer issued in your name.

**USED VEHICLES PURCHASED IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY**

When you purchase a used vehicle in a foreign country, you must have certificate of 
registration and bill of sale as proof of ownership.
USED VEHICLES PURCHASED IN ANOTHER JURISDICTION

When you purchase a vehicle in another jurisdiction (State), you must obtain from the seller named on the out-of-state title, the certificate of title, certificate of registration and a notarized bill of sale. When the vehicle is purchased in a non-title State, you must obtain from the seller the current certificate of registration or certification of registration from the non-title State and notarized bills of sale, one from the seller to you and one from the previous owner to the seller.

USED VEHICLES BROUGHT INTO THE STATE OF HAWAII FROM ANOTHER STATE IN YOUR NAME

If your vehicle is registered in another State, you are entitled to apply for a tax free permit (temporary registration) which will allow you to operate your vehicle upon the public streets and highways of Hawaii up to its expiration date. However, under no circumstances will a permit be issued to exceed a twelve-month period. Certificate of registration, shipping receipt, and current certificate of Hawaii State motor vehicle safety inspection must be presented.

Upon expiration of the permit (temporary registration), except for members of the U.S. Armed Forces, you must register your vehicle with the appropriate county agency where you reside.

DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATES

Motorcycles, trailers and semi-trailers must display a license plate on the rear; all other vehicles must display a license plate on both the front and rear.

MOPED LICENSING

Mopeds are required to be registered and licensed as bicycles. The license tag or decal must be displayed on the rear fender.
CHAPTER IV
THE DRIVER

Any driving situation involves three basic elements: the environment (the highway and traffic), your vehicle, and the driver—(you). Of these three elements, only you as a driver have the ability to gather information about the existing situation; apply your skill, knowledge, experience and judgment; and take the action required to safely complete the driving task. While good judgment can help to compensate for lower levels of skill, knowledge or experience, poor judgment can nullify any degree of expertise in these areas. Your judgment is primarily influenced by your attitude when you drive.

EMOTIONAL ASPECTS OF DRIVING

If you are worried, distracted, or if your mind is preoccupied, you cannot count on being sufficiently alert to drive safely. Troubles from home, quarrels, misunderstandings, financial worries, serious illness in the family, personal fears, or overconfidence can make you temporarily accident-prone. Strong emotions can work the same way. Persons who have just had violent arguments, or who are angry or in grief, need some time for “cooling off” or for making an adjustment before they drive a car. Taking out your frustrations or anger while driving on the streets or highways is exercising very poor judgment and can prove to be an expensive way to expend emotions. *Worry and safe driving do not mix.* If worried, ill, nervous, frightened, angry or depressed, let someone else drive.

As a well-adjusted person, you are more likely to be a good driver. You must always act not merely from your personal point of view, but with consideration and courtesy to other users of the streets and highways.

Remember, each person possesses a certain amount of power when behind the wheel, because full control of the vehicle is in the hands of the driver. Your attitude at the time you get behind the wheel and the use of this power tends to reveal the type of individual you are. Are you a bully, a thoughtless lawbreaker, a self-centered lane stealer? Are you a reliable, courteous, psychologically and emotionally mature person, prepared to share the road in the interest of traffic safety?

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF DRIVING

Your physical condition has an important bearing on your ability to drive safely. Alcohol, drugs, illness or disability are factors which may cause or contribute to a traffic crash.

DRIVER AGE AND ACCIDENTS

One of the most significant statistics that results from motor vehicle accident data is that of the relationship of the driver’s age to the number of accidents in which the driver is involved. These statistics show that the youngest drivers (under age 20) have about twice as many accidents as would be expected for the number of drivers in this group. As driver age increases they continue to have less accidents until about 50 to 54 years of age. These drivers have the least number of accidents of any age group. Starting at age 55 accidents occur more frequently as age increases. Drivers above age 75 are involved in an increased number of accidents, but still less than those drivers under the age of 25.
PROBLEMS OF THE YOUNGER DRIVER
Young adults have a desire for acceptance and recognition of their capabilities by others. As drivers they sometimes find it necessary to demonstrate these capabilities. Quite often these demonstrations are carried to lengths that exceed the capabilities of the vehicle, the road, and those of the most experienced and skillful drivers. Frequently such activity serves only to prove the younger drivers’ lack of ability and results in disaster. You can avoid being “trapped” in this kind of a situation by:

1. Resisting the desire to exhibit and compete. Such activity only serves as an indication of your inexperience and immaturity.
2. Declining all challenges to prove your or your vehicle’s capabilities. Such refusal is adequate proof of your maturity and responsibility.

PROBLEMS OF THE OLDER DRIVER
Increased driving experience most often leads to increased driving skill and capability. Statistics show that drivers become safer as they add experience through the years up to a point. Eventually the aging process will result in:

1. Reduced hearing and eyesight capabilities;
2. A reduction in physical dexterity and an increase in reaction time;
3. Increased decision time in driving situations; and
4. Decreased attention span and ability to concentrate on the driving task.

Older drivers very often do not recognize the gradual decrease in their capability to cope with the driving situation and become increasingly dangerous to themselves and others.

All drivers, including older experienced drivers should:

1. Keep physically fit;
2. Have annual physical examinations;
3. Know the effect of medication on your driving ability;
4. Recognize and drive within your limitations; and
5. Seek and comply with a physician’s advice concerning your driving capabilities.
CHAPTER V
TRAFFIC LAWS AND REGULATIONS

GENERAL
You are required to obey all traffic laws when driving a vehicle upon a street or highway.

POLICE OFFICERS
You must obey all lawful orders and directions of a police officer.

TRAFFIC SIGNS AND MARKINGS
You must operate your vehicle as indicated by traffic signs, signals and pavement markings.

DRIVING ON RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY
You must drive on the right half of the roadway. Vehicles going in opposite directions must pass each other on the right. On narrow roads you must allow vehicles going in the opposite direction at least one-half of the main traveled portion of the road. When moving slower than other traffic you should drive in the extreme right lane.

DRIVING ON THE LEFT SIDE OF ROADWAY
You may drive on the left half of the roadway when:
• Overtaking and passing a vehicle going in the same direction on a road that has two or three lanes of moving traffic and there is no traffic coming from the opposite direction.
• There is an obstruction in the roadway and oncoming vehicles are not using the left half of the road.
• Driving on a one-way street or road.
You MUST NOT drive on the left half of the roadway when:
• The road has four or more lanes for moving traffic unless otherwise directed by signs.
• Approaching the top of a hill or on a curve.
• Approaching within 100 feet (30.5m) of or passing through an intersection or railroad crossing.
• Approaching within 100 feet (30.5m) of a bridge or tunnel and you are unable to see vehicles coming from the opposite direction.

PASSING ON THE RIGHT
You may pass to the right of another vehicle:
• When the vehicle you are passing is about to make a left turn, but you may not drive your vehicle off the pavement or main traveled portion of the roadway to pass.
• On a paved street or highway with two or more lanes marked for traffic in each direction.
• On a one-way street with two or more lanes marked for traffic.

ONE-WAY ROADWAYS
You must drive only in the direction indicated by the posted traffic signs.

DRIVING ON ROADWAYS MARKED WITH TRAFFIC LANES
When the street or road is marked with traffic lanes you must:
• Drive entirely within the marked lane and do not change lanes until you have checked that the change can be made safely.
• Drive in the proper lane as indicated by signs or pavement markings.
FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY
When following another vehicle you must:
- Not follow closer than is reasonable and prudent for the speed, traffic, road and weather conditions. See page 67, Chapter X.
- When towing another vehicle, leave enough space ahead of your vehicle to allow an overtaking vehicle to occupy the space safely.

DRIVING ON DIVIDED HIGHWAYS
When a highway is divided by a barrier or an unpaved space, you must not drive across or through the barrier or space except where an opening or paved surface is provided and signs do not prohibit it.

REQUIRED SIGNALS
When slowing down, turning or changing lanes, you must signal to let others know what you plan to do.
- You must signal every time, even when there are no other vehicles in sight.

* Signals must be given for at least 100 feet (30.5m) before you change lanes, turn or stop. This is about five car lengths. It is advisable to signal for a greater distance when driving at higher speeds.
* Hand signals must be used when the vehicle turn signals are not operating.
* Signaling does not give you the right to make the indicated maneuver; you must check to insure that it can be safely completed without interfering with other traffic.
* Do not rest your foot on the brake pedal when you are not braking to avoid giving following drivers a false stop lamp signal.

RAILROAD CROSSINGS
You must stop your vehicle not less than 15 feet (4.6m) from the nearest rail when:
- An installed electric or mechanical signal is giving warning of an approaching train;
- A crossing gate is lowered or a flagman is signalling the approach of a train;
- A train approaching within 1,500 feet (460m) gives audible warning of its approach; or
- When the approaching train is visible and so close as to constitute a hazard.
SPEED RESTRICTIONS

Excessive speed for conditions is the major cause of most accidents.

Basic Law: You must not drive at a speed that is greater than is reasonable and prudent.

You must drive at a safe appropriate speed depending on the area in which you are driving, the type and condition of the road traffic, the presence of pedestrians, the weather, and light conditions.

Speed Limits:
• You must not drive at a speed that is greater than the posted maximum limit.
• You must not drive at a speed that is less than the posted minimum speed limit.
• You must not drive so slowly that you hold back other traffic. If you cannot keep up with traffic, pull off the roadway and let other traffic pass or change to another route.
• You must not engage in any race, speed contest or speed exhibition of any kind on a public street or highway.

Speed limits are indicated by posted signs. Reduced speed limits are required in the following areas:
• On streets near schools and playgrounds and at locations marked with a “School Crossing” sign when children are present.
• On streets in residential or business areas.

PARKING

Many times it is difficult to find a parking place. When parking your vehicle you should be considerate of others. Parking in a prohibited place can be an inconvenient and costly experience. Parking is prohibited in the following locations:
• At any place where your vehicle is hazardous to other traffic on the roadway; your vehicle will be towed away.
• On a sidewalk or sidewalk area.
• In front of or so close to a public or private driveway that your vehicle interferes with the use of the driveway.
• Within or so close to an intersection that your vehicle interferes with traffic.
• In front of or so close to a fire hydrant that your vehicle could interfere with the use of the hydrant.
• On or so close to a crosswalk that your vehicle blocks other drivers’ view of pedestrians.
• At any place during the times when official signs or markings prohibit standing or parking.
• On a bridge, elevated structure, or within a tunnel.
• On the roadway side of another car stopped at the edge of the road (double parking) whether you remain in the vehicle or not.
• More than 12 inches (30cm) from the curb.
• In a passenger or freight loading zone.
• At any place where less than 10 feet (3m) of the width of the street remains for the free movement of traffic.
• On any public road to repair (except emergency), wash, or display any vehicle for sale.
• When your vehicle extends outside of a marked parking space except when
your vehicle is larger than the marked space.
• On a public street or highway for a continuous period of more than 24 hours.
• In a space identified by the international symbol for accessi-
bility, unless you display the placard or license plate for the
disabled issued by another state or the appropriate county
agency.

TOW-AWAY ZONES
You must not park or stop your vehicle, even momentarily except when blocked
by other traffic, at any place during the hours stated on official signs which indicate
that a tow-away regulation is in effect. The police will have your vehicle towed away.
If your vehicle is towed away, contact the police for recovery information.

INTERFERENCE WITH DRIVER
Driving with more than three persons in the front seat of your vehicle may consti-
tute interference with the driver. Such interference is prohibited.

UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE
When you leave your vehicle unattended, you must:
• Stop the engine;
• Lock the ignition and remove the ignition key;
• Set the parking brake; and
• When the vehicle is on a grade, turn the wheels toward the curb.

EMERGENCY VEHICLES
When you hear the warning signal (siren, bell or horn) or see the warning lamps
(flashing red or blue) of an emergency vehicle, you must provide a clear path for the
emergency vehicle and STOP. DON’T PANIC AND JAM ON THE BRAKES. The
following steps indicate the procedure:
• Reduce your speed.
• Determine where the emergency vehicle is coming from.
• Move your vehicle out of the path of the emergency vehicle toward the edge of
the road and stop.
• If the emergency vehicle is directly behind your vehicle when you are in heavy
traffic, keep moving slowly until you can get out of the way.

FUNERAL PROCESSIONS AND CONVOYS
Funeral processions and convoys have the right of way at intersections. Vehicles
in a convoy or procession will usually use headlamps for identification. The first and
last vehicles will usually have a distinctive marking. You should not drive your vehi-
cle between the vehicles in a funeral procession.

SLOW MOVING VEHICLE EMBLEM
This highly reflective 18 inch (46cm) triangular emblem is
required to be displayed on the rear of vehicles designed to
operate at speeds of 25 mph (40 km/h) or less. When you see
this emblem, reduce speed and approach cautiously.
NO PASSING RULES

The following diagrams illustrate the basic no passing situations you will encounter while driving. In the illustrations below the red vehicle must not pass.

DO NOT PASS UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. On the right shoulder of the highway.

2. On approaching a hill or curve where there is not 700 to 1000 feet (213m to 305m) clear distance ahead.

3. When the pass cannot be completed without interfering with the safety of the oncoming vehicle and before yellow line appears in your traffic lane.

Note: When you are being passed, it is unlawful to increase your speed.
4. When there is a solid yellow line in your lane. (Look for the yellow “NO PASSING ZONE” sign on the left side of the road ahead.)

5. When there is a school bus on the same roadway when the flashing lights are operating.

6. When approaching within 100 feet (30m) of or when traversing any intersection or railroad crossing, approaching within 100 feet (30m) of any posted narrow bridge, viaduct or tunnel.

   Note: The end of a “no passing zone” does not mean it is safe to pass. It means there is increased visibility ahead.
THE RULES OF RIGHT-OF-WAY

The following diagrams illustrate the basic right-of-way rules you will encounter at intersections. In the illustrations below the red vehicle must always yield the right-of-way.

Yield to the car on the right when vehicles approach at the same time.

Yield to all oncoming traffic that is so close as to be a hazard when turning left.

Yield to all traffic on the protected route.

Stop and yield to all traffic on the protected route.

Yield to pedestrians and cars caught in intersection when light turns green.

Stop and yield when entering any public street or road from alley, driveway or farmyard.
CHAPTER VI
TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS

Traffic flow is controlled by the use of pavement markings, traffic islands, signals and signs. These devices inform you of conditions concerning the roadway and help guide you safely to your destination.

There are three categories of traffic control devices:

Regulatory Devices instruct you to stop, proceed in a certain direction, or limit your speed. All regulatory devices indicate action required by you. Failure to comply is subject to penalty.

Warning Devices advise you of hazardous conditions or the possibility of hazardous conditions. For your own safety, obey warning devices. Disregarding the information given by a warning device may result in an accident due to your negligence.

Guide and Information Signs assist you in finding your way safely or provide information to make your trip more comfortable.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

Pavement markings are lines, words or figures marked on the pavement with paint, reflectors or other markers.

Centerlines:

Yellow centerlines are used to separate traffic moving in opposite directions.

Single Broken Yellow Lines are used to mark the centerline when there are only two lanes of traffic. You must drive to the right of this centerline but when it is safe you may cross this line to pass another vehicle.

Double Solid Yellow Lines are used to mark the center of the roadway where passing is prohibited in both directions. You may cross these lines ONLY TO MAKE A LEFT TURN INTO OR FROM AN ALLEY, PRIVATE ROAD OR DRIVEWAY.

No Passing Lines are single solid yellow lines used on two-lane roads to indicate zones where passing is prohibited. You may cross the line ONLY to make a left turn into or from an alley, private road or a driveway.
Lane Markings:
White lines separate lanes of traffic moving in the same direction. You are required to drive between these lane lines.

Single Dashed White Lane Lines may be crossed when you can do so safely.

Single Solid White Lines indicate that movement from lane to lane is hazardous. The wider the line, the greater the hazard. You may cross a solid white line ONLY IN UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND THEN ONLY WITH GREAT CARE.
**Double Solid White Lines** indicate that movement from lane to lane is prohibited. You **MUST NOT CROSS A DOUBLE SOLID WHITE LINE.**

**Red Pavement Markings** or reflectors indicate a roadway that must not be entered or used.

**Edgelines** are solid white or yellow lines along the edge of the roadway to be used as a safety guide. White lines are used along the right edge of the roadway and yellow edge lines may be along the left edge of the roadway on divided streets and highways.
**Stop Lines** are solid white lines painted across the traffic lanes at intersections and pedestrian crosswalks indicating the exact place at which to stop.

**Crosswalk Lines** are two solid white lines painted across the traffic lanes. When pedestrians are in these crosswalks, they have the right of way over motor vehicles. YOU MUST STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS. Crosswalks are sometimes located in the middle of the block. In this case a pedestrian crossing sign may also be used.

**Two-Way Left Turn Channelization Markings** are a combination of a yellow solid and dashed lines in the center of a roadway which mark a lane in the center of the roadway which may be used by vehicles travelling in either direction for left turn maneuvers ONLY. The lane must NEVER be used for passing.
Obstruction Markings are solid lines painted in the traffic lanes to guide you around obstructions, such as bridge supports, in the road. The markings may be yellow or white. You may pass to either side of white obstruction markings but you must pass only to the right of the yellow markings.

Directional Markings are white arrows or words painted in the traffic lane to indicate the direction in which you must go. You must move ONLY IN THE DIRECTION INDICATED BY THE ARROW. Where arrows indicate more than one direction, you may choose any direction indicated.
Railroad Crossing Markings are white markings painted in the traffic lane before railroad crossings. The pavement is marked with a large “X” and two “R’s”. A solid yellow centerline extends the entire distance to prevent passing, and a white stop line is painted across the traffic lane.

Traffic Island Markings are of many different designs. They may be only painted markings on the roadway or any combination of curbing, paving or landscaped areas. Traffic islands are used to direct you into separate traffic lanes. Traffic islands are called “Safety Islands” when they are used to protect pedestrians who may have to stand in the roadway. YOU SHOULD NEVER DRIVE INTO OR ACROSS A TRAFFIC ISLAND.
TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Traffic signals serve primarily to direct and regulate traffic. They are used at inter-
sections and other locations where it is necessary to interrupt the flow of traffic.

Standard Three-Color Signals:

These signals are used primarily to stop and permit movement of traffic at loca-
tions where there is considerable conflict in the movement of vehicles.

A Red Light means that you must stop:
1. At the stop line; or
2. When there is no stop line, before entering any cross-
walk, or
3. When there is no stop line or crosswalk before enter-
ing the intersection; and
4. Remain stopped until the signal changes to green.

After stopping, you may turn right except when a sign prohibits such movement. You must yield to all pedestrians and all vehicles when making such a turn.

After stopping you may also turn left on a red light from a one-way street into a one-way street where traffic is moving to the left, except when a sign prohibits such movement.

A Yellow Light means that the red light is going to be shown immediately thereafter. You should avoid enter-
ing the intersection when the yellow light is shown. YOU MUST NOT ENTER THE INTERSECTION AFTER THE RED LIGHT IS SHOWN.
A Green Light means go straight ahead or turn except when signs prohibit turns. You must yield to all pedestrians and vehicles already in the intersection.

Lighted Arrows
Lighted arrows are sometimes used to control turns from a specific traffic lane.

A Red Arrow has the same meaning as a red light for the indicated lane of traffic.

A Yellow Arrow has the same meaning as a yellow light for the indicated lane of traffic.

A Green Arrow has the same meaning as a green light for the indicated lane of traffic BUT YOU MUST TURN OR PROCEED IN THE DIRECTION INDICATED BY THE ARROW.
Combination Signals

Arrow signals combined with standard signals control the movement of vehicles in all traffic lanes.

The colored lights and arrows have the same meanings as indicated previously for signal lights and arrows. YOU MUST MOVE ONLY IN THE DIRECTION INDICATED BY THE GREEN ARROW WHEN IT IS LIGHTED.

Flashing Signals

Flashing signals are sometimes used to warn you of danger.

A Red Flashing Signal has the same meaning as a stop sign. A stop sign will also be posted where this signal is located.

A Yellow Flashing Signal means that you may proceed only with caution.

When regular traffic signals show flashing lights they have the same meanings as described for the flashing red or yellow signals.

Lane Control Signals

Sometimes it is desirable to have traffic in a lane in one direction at certain times and the opposite direction at other times. Lane control signals are used to control the direction of traffic movement in the lane. The signal is placed over the traffic lane it controls.

The Red “X” means you must not use that lane because the lane is being used by traffic proceeding in the opposite direction.
The Green Arrow means you may use that lane.

The Yellow “X” means that you must move out of that lane of traffic because it is going to be used for traffic moving in the opposite direction. When the Yellow “X” signal is flashing you may use that lane only when preparing to turn left.

Pedestrian Signals

Pedestrian signals are special types of traffic signals used only to control pedestrian movements. These signals consist of the lighted words “WALK” and “DON’T WALK” and the symbols of a walking person and an upraised palm.

DON’T WALK or upraised palm symbol. A steady signal means that pedestrians must not enter the roadway toward the signal. A flashing “DON’T WALK” or upraised palm signal means that pedestrians may not start to cross the roadway but those already crossing may continue to the nearest sidewalk, traffic island or safety zone.

WALK or walking person symbol. A steady signal means that pedestrians may cross the roadway towards the signal. A flashing “WALK” or walking person signal is sometimes used to indicate that there is a possible conflict between pedestrians and vehicles.
TRAFFIC SIGNS

Traffic signs provide you with information on actions you must take; warn you of possible hazards and dangers; and provide you with route and location identification.

The meaning of traffic signs is indicated by color and shape in addition to words, letters, numbers and silhouettes.

Colors and Shapes

The Color Red indicates that an action is prohibited. The color red appears on signs of various shapes.

The Color Yellow indicates a warning of hazardous or dangerous conditions. This color almost always appears on a diamond shaped sign.

The Color Orange indicates a warning concerning road work. This color appears on rectangular or diamond shaped signs.

The Colors Black and White indicate a required action. Black and white signs are always rectangular in shape.

The Colors Green, Blue and Brown are used on guide and information signs. These colors appear mostly on rectangular shaped signs.

Illustration 55
Regulatory Signs

A *STOP SIGN* is an 8-sided white on red sign indicating that other traffic has the right-of-way. You must always bring your vehicle to a complete stop and yield to approaching traffic before proceeding. The stop must be made at the “stop line”. If there is no “stop line”, you must stop before crossing any marked or unmarked crosswalk. When you cannot see other traffic from the first stop, move ahead slowly and stop again where you can see approaching traffic.

A *YIELD SIGN* is a triangular red and white sign indicating that other traffic has the right-of-way. Be ready to stop when you approach a “YIELD SIGN”. You need to stop only when there is other traffic that has the right-of-way.

*SPEED LIMIT SIGNS* are rectangular black and white signs which are used to show the established maximum and minimum speed limits. These signs may indicate special speed limits which apply at certain times, or under certain conditions, or to certain kinds of vehicles. YOU MUST NOT DRIVE FASTER THAN THE POSTED MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT NOR SLOWER THAN THE POSTED MINIMUM SPEED LIMIT.
**REduced Speed Ahead Signs** are the same color and shape as speed limit signs and give you advance notice to slow your vehicle to a lower speed limit posted ahead. These signs inform you that you should begin to reduce your speed. The new speed limit begins at the next speed limit sign.

**lane Use Control Signs** are rectangular, black and white signs indicating that turning movements are required or the unusual turning movements are permitted from specific lanes at an intersection. You must move your vehicle only in the direction indicated for your traffic lane.

**Do Not Pass Signs** are rectangular signs indicating locations where you must not pass on two- or three-lane roads. YOU MUST NOT PASS ANOTHER VEHICLE WHERE THESE SIGNS ARE POSTED.

**No Passing Zone Signs** are pennant-shaped yellow and black signs that supplement the “Do Not Pass” signs. The pennant is located at the left side of the road and points to the beginning of the no-passing zone.
PASS WITH CARE SIGNS are rectangular, black and white signs indicating the end of a no-passing zone.

OTHER ALIGNMENT SIGNS are rectangular, black and white signs indicating where you must drive to permit traffic to move safely and smoothly.

EXCLUSION SIGNS are rectangular signs and contain either a red circle on a white background or a red circle with a red diagonal on a black and white background. These signs restrict or prohibit vehicles or vehicle movements or prohibit some other activity.
OTHER REGULATORY SIGNS. There are many other regulatory signs; all are rectangular with black or red lettering on a white background. These signs restrict people, vehicles, weights and types of vehicles, parking, etc.

WARNING SIGNS

These signs warn you of dangers that exist or may be found on or near the road. You should be prepared to take safe and proper action when you see these signs. Warning signs are usually diamond-shaped with a black legend and border on a yellow background.
GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS

These signs include all signs containing information for you regarding your location and the location of places and services. Typical signs are: route markers, location and distance signs, park signs, recreation signs, and service information signs.
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE DEVICES

Various traffic control devices are used in construction and maintenance work areas to direct drivers or pedestrians safely through the work zone and to provide for the safety of the highway workers.

The most commonly used traffic control devices are signs, barricades, drums, cones, tubes, flashing arrow panels and flagpersons. Orange is the basic color for these devices.

Construction and Maintenance Signs:

Construction and maintenance signs are used to notify drivers of unusual or potentially dangerous conditions in or near work areas. Most signs in work areas are diamond shaped. A few signs are rectangular.
Channelizing Devices:

Barricades, vertical panels, drums, cones and tubes are the most commonly used devices to alert drivers of unusual or potentially dangerous conditions in highway and street work areas and to guide drivers safely through the work zone. At night they are often equipped with flashing or steady burn lights.

The diagonal stripes on the barricade or vertical panel guide the driver towards the direction to which traffic is to pass. Stripes sloping downward to the right mean the driver should bear to the right. Conversely, stripes sloping downward to the left mean bear to the left.
Flashing Arrow Panels:
Large flashing or sequencing arrow panels may be used in work zones both day and night to guide drivers into certain traffic lanes and to inform them that the part of the road or street ahead of them is closed.

Flagpersons:
Flagpersons are often provided in highway and street work zones to stop, slow or guide traffic safely through the areas. Flagpersons wear orange vests, shirts or jackets and use red flags or stop/slow paddles to direct traffic through work zones.
CHAPTER VII
ACCIDENT PROCEDURES

What you must do if you are involved in an accident.

Traffic accidents resulting in personal injury to any extent, or death, or property damage of $3,000 or more must be reported to the police immediately by the quickest means of communication.

If involved in an accident:
1. Stop immediately. If possible move your vehicle off the travelled portion of the roadway. Do not leave the scene of an accident without identifying yourself and rendering assistance.

2. Help the injured.
   a. Call the nearest police agency. Ask for an ambulance if needed.
   b. Act promptly, but carefully. Do not move the injured unnecessarily. Unskilled handling can make serious injuries out of minor ones. Keep the injured warm until skilled help arrives. If there is severe bleeding, attempt to stop the flow of blood with direct pressure. Protect the victim from the oncoming traffic.

3. Warn passing traffic. Have someone warn approaching cars to prevent further damage from oncoming traffic. Keep a flashlight and flares in your vehicle for emergency use.

4. Exchange information. Drivers must give their name, address, and vehicle registration number, and if requested, exhibit their driver’s license to any person injured in the accident or to the driver or occupant of or person attending any vehicle or other property damaged in the accident.

5. Upon striking an unattended vehicle, stop and locate the owner, or leave a written notice containing your name and address and circumstances of the accident. If you damage other property along the highway, notify the owner.
CHAPTER VIII
MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY LAW

WHOM DOES IT AFFECT?
All drivers involved in traffic accidents resulting in death, injury or property damage in excess of $3,000, and all persons convicted by court of certain offenses involving vehicles.

WHAT MUST YOU DO AFTER THE ACCIDENT? (See Chapter VII, page 52)
Report the accident to the Police Department and insurance company and:
File evidence of insurance (Form SR-21).

WHAT MUST YOU DO UPON CONVICTION OF CERTAIN OFFENSES INVOLVING VEHICLES?
File and maintain proof of financial responsibility for a period of three (3) years from conviction date;
File evidence of insurance (Form SR-22).

WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR NON-COMPLIANCE?
Driver’s license will be suspended.
MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE LAW

WHO NEEDS MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE?
Every owner of a car, bus or truck must have motor vehicle insurance in order to register or operate a vehicle in the State.

WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM MANDATORY COVERAGES?
The basic benefits include up to $10,000 per person for:
- Medical and rehabilitative expenses;
- It includes liability coverage of $20,000 per person with an aggregate limit of $40,000 per accident for bodily injury and $10,000 for property damage per accident. (NOTE: Damage to your own car will not be covered unless you have additional insurance coverage.)

WHEN CAN I SUE OR BE SUED?
You can sue or be sued for recovery of property damage at any time but not for bodily injury unless:
- Medical bills exceed $5,000; or
- Injury is such that the use of a part or function of the body is lost or permanent and serious disfigurement results; or
- Injury results in death.

WHAT IS THE PENALTY?
Any person who violates any applicable provision of the motor vehicle insurance law will be subject to citation for such violation and each violation shall be deemed a separate offense and shall be subject to a fine not to exceed $5,000 or thirty (30) days imprisonment, or suspension of motor vehicle operator’s license, or forfeiture of motor vehicle certificate of registration, or any combination of such penalties.
CHAPTER IX
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

THE PROBLEM:
One of the most significant problems in driving is the great number of drivers who are under the influence of alcohol. The use of alcohol is a factor in over 18,000 (about 40%) of the fatal motor vehicle accidents that occur every year in the United States. This is your problem as a driver, whether you drink or not.

The problem is not limited to the alcoholic or chronic drunk that drives. It involves everyone who uses alcohol to a lesser degree and drives; including those decent, law-abiding, responsible persons with homes and families who just overindulge occasionally. It is a few extra martinis during lunch, or a few with friends after work on payday, or driving home from a party.

THE SOLUTION:
A large share of the responsibility for solving the problem rests with you, the driver.

• You must understand what alcohol does to you;
• You must know your limits and not exceed them; and
• You must refrain from driving when you have been drinking.

ALCOHOL:
There are several things you should remember about alcohol:

• Alcohol is a depressant, not a stimulant. It slows normal reflexes, interferes with judgment, reduces alertness and impairs vision. If you feel stimulated after drinking, it is simply because your inhibitions are lowered, causing loss of caution and self-control.
• It doesn’t matter whether you drink beer, wine, whiskey or any other alcoholic beverage; it’s the amount of alcohol that enters your blood that causes the problem.
• Alcohol can affect you differently at different times. A small amount on an empty stomach will affect you more rapidly than it would if you had recently eaten a quantity of food.
• Once the alcohol enters your blood there is nothing you can do to lessen the effect. Black coffee, food or a cold shower might wake you up, but they will not sober you up. Alcohol is burned up by your liver and eliminated from your body through your kidneys and lungs. This process takes time.

THE LAW
Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants. Driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants is prohibited in Hawaii.

Implied Consent. Any person who operates a motor vehicle on the public highways in Hawaii is deemed to have given his or her consent to be tested to determine the amount of alcohol in his or her blood.

Administrative License Revocation. Your license will be taken away and you will be given a 30-day temporary driving permit if a test shows that you have a blood alcohol content of .08 or more or if you refuse the test. Anyone whose license is revoked may request a hearing.
Zero Tolerance. Drivers under 21 are prohibited from operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content level of .02 or more.

A police officer who believes a driver is under the influence of alcohol, may request the driver to take a test. Refusal to take the test may result in the revocation of your license for one year, two years or four years depending upon the driver’s prior alcohol enforcement contacts. In addition, the driver may be charged with driving under the influence of alcohol even though he refuses the test. The test can also prove that you are not under the influence of alcohol.

When the test shows alcohol in the driver’s blood, the driver may be considered to be:

- Impaired if the blood alcohol content is more than .05 percent but less than .08 percent.
- Under the influence of alcohol if the blood alcohol content is .08 percent or more.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO CONSUME OR POSSESS ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ON ANY PUBLIC HIGHWAY OR ANY PUBLIC SIDEWALK.

Storing an opened alcoholic beverage container in the area of a motor vehicle normally occupied by the driver or passengers is prohibited on any public road.

OTHER DRUGS

There are many drugs which also interfere with a person’s ability to drive safely. Some are found in medicine prescribed by your doctor, and others are found in medicine you can buy without a doctor’s prescription.

Here are a few things you should remember:

- Before taking medicine, it is important to ask your doctor about any possible effects which might relate to your driving ability.
- Some allergy remedies and cold pills which you can buy without a prescription may contain ingredients which can affect your driving ability.
- Amphetamines are used in stimulants and diet pills, known in the illegal trade as “pep pills” and “speed”. Over-dosage of these and other drugs, such as tranquilizers or sedatives (“downers”), not only greatly impair your ability to drive, but can be the sole cause of death.
- The combination of alcohol and drugs, in some cases, can have a much more pronounced effect than either taken separately. Never mix alcohol and drugs.
- Some of the most dangerous types of drugs can be obtained only illegally. LSD, heroin and cocaine are examples. They have the power to make users completely unaware of or indifferent to their surroundings. Anyone under the influence of such drugs must not try to operate a motor vehicle.
- All types of drugs on the “illegal” market are dangerous because there is no way to be certain of their strength or purity.
NORMAL DRIVING PROCEDURES

DRIVING HABITS

A habit is usually formed when you do the same thing so many times that it becomes so easy that you do it automatically without any conscious thought as to how you did it.

You form driving habits because the same physical actions are required to be performed over and over again. Your normal tendency is to reduce these required actions as much as possible. This reduction takes place without thought, and results in the formation of “bad” driving habits.

“Bad” driving habits are caused by: (1) Laziness, (2) Impatience, (3) Inattention, (4) Arrogance, and (5) Ignorance. Typical examples of these habits and how they are formed are:

LAZINESS

- When you learned to drive, you should have been taught that the proper procedure was to look for other traffic before you changed lanes, drove away from the curb or got out of your vehicle on the traffic side. The procedure always required you to turn your head and look behind you for oncoming traffic before taking any action. As you gained proficiency as a driver, you may have inadvertently allowed this check to be reduced to only looking in the rear view mirror and finally to only an occasional check.
- A related “bad” habit is that of failing to always signal your intentions before changing lanes, or driving away from the curb. Allowing the combination of these two “bad” habits to develop could be the cause of your first accident.

IMPATIENCE

- Everyone knows that you must always come to a complete stop at a stop sign or at a red light, even when making a right turn, regardless of traffic. Pressure from following vehicles and the lack of cross traffic may tempt you to just make a “good try” at stopping. This “bad” habit may grow to a point that you may find yourself just “slowing down” for a stop sign.
- It’s easy to spot an impatient driver. He’s the one who speeds from stop to stop, weaving in and out of traffic, and when he can’t, he tailgates other drivers. He may be paying close attention to what he is doing but doesn’t seem to realize that he is disrupting traffic and increasing his chances of becoming involved in an accident. Don’t permit yourself to develop this dangerous “bad” habit.

INATTENTION

- A new driver on the road sits up straight, has a firm grip on the steering wheel, is aware of where he is, and pays attention to the developing traffic problems. As he gains experience, he relaxes and leans back, releases his grip on the wheel and may allow his attention to wander. His vehicle then may also wander. This driver can easily be identified. He is driving with one arm out the
window and talking to a passenger, gesturing with his other hand and paying very little attention to the traffic flow. His passengers are often uncomfortable because of his lack of control of his vehicle. When he is alone, he daydreams or gazes at objects off of the roadway. His inattention forfeits his safety.

ARROGANCE
- Where the impatient driver is simply in a hurry, the arrogant driver is purposely in a hurry. He competes with his vehicle. His vehicle is an extension of his ego. He has little or no respect for traffic laws or the rights or right-of-way of other drivers or pedestrians. Never allow yourself to become involved in competition with an arrogant driver, or become one. There is nothing to gain and too much to lose.

IGNORANCE
- A driver may not know the meaning of traffic signs, roadway markings, the rules of right of way and of safe driving procedures. You may notice this person turning from the wrong lane, driving too slowly because he is unsure, stopped at the end of a freeway on-ramp or crossing pavement markings which prohibit crossing. Usually the ignorant driver doesn’t realize that he is ignorant and may think that all other drivers are “out to get him.”

Sometimes a driver has a combination of these “bad” driving habits, and when he has or is involved in a traffic accident, he is sure that the accident just “happened” to him and was unavoidable.

Listed below are more bad habits which fit in one or more of the five “bad” driving categories:
- Failing to yield to pedestrians or other vehicles having the right of way.
- Not always wearing safety belts and not insisting that passengers also wear them.
- Having one or more alcoholic drinks prior to driving home from work. The excuse usually given is to “miss the traffic.”
- Backing a vehicle without first making certain that the area is clear.
- Allowing yourself to be distracted by passengers in your vehicle.
- Allowing your attention to be diverted by looking at maps, or lighting smoking materials while driving, etc.

“Good” driving habits can be formed just as easily as the “bad” habits just discussed. All you have to do is to deliberately accomplish the proper action over and over again until the good habit is formed. Your trips will become more enjoyable for yourself and more comfortable for your passengers.

DISTRACTED DRIVING

Being distracted from, or not giving your full attention to your driving, could result in serious consequences. Anything that takes your attention away from driving can lead you to make a poor choice when driving.

Avoid eating, drinking, talking on a cell phone, writing, reading, smoking, personal grooming, changing your CDs or radio station, looking at people or objects outside your vehicle, looking for things inside your vehicle, talking to passengers, dealing with children or pets, applying makeup, shaving, etc. Plan ahead and take care of these things before you start driving. If you need to read a map or directions, pull over to the side of the road in a safe place. Stop until you are ready to give your complete attention to driving.

Keep your stereo or radio at a volume low enough so you can hear things outside
of your vehicle. If it is turned up too loud, you may not be able to hear a siren, horn honking, screeching of tires or other things that would lead you to react to an emergency or hazard in order to prevent a crash. Do not drive with headsets or earphones that cover or go in both ears. They make it too hard to hear emergency horns or sirens.

Talking on a cell phone is distracting because your attention is directed more toward your conversation than your driving. Avoid using your phone or CD radio when the vehicle is in motion. Even with “hands free” equipment, talking on a phone or radio take your attention away from driving and can cause you to be less likely to notice a dangerous situation. If you need to talk on a cell phone, pull over to the side of the road in a safe place until you are finished with your call. Pets can be distracting and should be in a carrier.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Defensive driving is a driving technique in which you identify dangerous driving situations and take action to defend against the danger before an accident situation develops. Your “defensive” action will be applied in avoiding vehicles driven by aggressive, offensive, discourteous, careless, inattentive, impulsive, ignorant, and intoxicated persons as well as pedestrians who have some of the same characteristics.

If you display any of these characteristics, you must first DEFEND AGAINST YOURSELF. The basic idea of defensive driving is to recognize possible hazards associated with various driving situations and to adjust your driving to allow you to avoid hazards when they develop.

To avoid accidents, you, as a defensive driver, should:

1. Stay alert, keep your eyes moving in order to be aware of developing traffic situations around you at all times.
2. Look well ahead of your vehicle and anticipate the possibility of a chain reaction traffic situation.
3. Have an alternate plan of action ready in case an unexpected event develops. (Always leave yourself a way out.)
4. Always maintain the proper following distance.
5. Always maintain the proper speed for all highway conditions.

ATTENTIVENESS

Almost all of the information you require to drive a vehicle safely is obtained by looking and SEEING. You must be aware of and be alert to any hazards that appear. You should have a constant awareness of conditions in the vicinity of your vehicle. Special attention should be devoted to conditions at a considerable distance ahead of your vehicle.

SPEED REDUCES YOUR FIELD OF VISION
The SEEING task should occupy your entire attention while driving. Develop a scanning pattern with most of your attention devoted to the situation ahead but with glances to either side, in the rear view mirror, and at the instrument panel at regular and frequent intervals. Do not become distracted by looking at passengers, attempting to find something within the vehicle, looking at reading material, sightseeing or daydreaming while driving. Many drivers’ statements about accidents begin with “I didn’t see ....” In many cases this means “I wasn’t paying attention.”

**DRIVER’S CONDITION**

A poor physical or mental condition limits your capabilities as a driver. Do not drive if you are ill, injured, emotionally upset or under the influence of intoxicants. If you are taking medication, you should obtain and follow your physician’s advice about driving. If you must make the trip, seek assistance from friends or neighbors or use some form of public transportation.

If an emergency exists, call the police for assistance.

**VEHICLE CONDITION**

*Your Own Vehicle.* Any defect which may affect the safe operation of the vehicle should be corrected as soon as possible. If the status of the engine coolant, engine oil, battery water, tire condition and pressure and vehicle lamps have not been checked within the previous week, you should check them or have them checked at a service station before you continue your trip. The windshield and all windows should be clean. INSURE THAT THE VEHICLE CONTAINS ENOUGH FUEL TO COMPLETE THE TRIP.

*An Unfamiliar Vehicle.* Take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the location and operation of the turn and hazard warning signals, head lamps and beam selector, windshield wipers and washers, brakes, gear selector and horn. Any defects should be corrected before the vehicle is driven.

**TRIP PLAN**

When driving to an unfamiliar area, you should plan your trip.

*Destination Location.* You should know the exact location of your destination; don’t start with only a hazy idea of where you are going. If your destination is in an unfamiliar area, check the location on a map before you start.

*Route Plan.* Choose the most appropriate route. Consider traffic conditions, road conditions, weather conditions and light (daylight or darkness) conditions. Avoid troublesome conditions wherever practicable. Allow sufficient time for the trip. If you are doubtful as to whether you are able to comfortably cope with any undesirable conditions, POSTPONE OR CANCEL THE TRIP.

**PRE-STARTING**

Equipment warning lamps on the vehicle instrument panel should all be illuminated when the ignition switch is turned on. A warning lamp that is not illuminated indicates that the lamp is not functioning.

**POST-STARTING**

Within a few moments after starting the engine no warning lamps except brake and safety belt lamps should be visible. If other lamps are visible, the vehicle should not be driven until the condition is corrected.
The brake warning lamp should go out when the parking brake is released. If it illuminates when the foot brake pedal is pressed, the brake system is defective and the vehicle should not be driven.

SAFETY BELTS

Safety belts are life belts. They are the most important personal safety item available in vehicles. They help keep you:

1. From being thrown from your car.
   • Your chances of being killed are five times greater if you are thrown from your car.

2. From being injured by striking the windshield or other interior parts of your car.
   • You can survive a crash at speeds up to 60 miles per hour (97 km/h) if using lap and shoulder belts.
   • If not buckled up, it is possible to be killed in a crash at speeds as low as 12 miles per hour (19 km/h).

3. From injuring another person in the car by being thrown against them.
   • In an accident infants and small children may be crushed to death by occupants not wearing seat belts.

4. In the driver’s position so you can keep control of your car.
   • The first impact in a crash frequently throws the driver away from the vehicle controls thus preventing any possibility of controlling the vehicle.

Lap belts should be buckled snugly across your hip bones and the lower part of your abdomen. The shoulder belt should be not quite so tight—so that you can insert your fist between the belt and your chest. All belts in late model vehicles are designed to allow body movement and only lock up upon impact.

Don’t forget your passengers. There are special child seats available for children who are too small to wear regular safety belts. No person is strong enough to hold onto even a small infant in accidents or sudden stops. NEVER ALLOW A CHILD TO RIDE STANDING ON A SEAT.

Develop the habit of wearing your safety belt regularly; you will soon find that you are uncomfortable driving without it.

ANY EXCUSE FOR NOT WEARING SAFETY BELTS IS INEXCUSABLE.
Safety Belts Prevent the Human Collision

WHAT HAPPENS IN A COLLISION

Unbelted

0.000 Seconds - Car Hits Barrier
On impact, the car begins to crush and to slow down. The person inside the car has nothing to slow him down so he continues to move forward inside the car at 30 mph.

0.050 Seconds - Car Crushes
The car slows down as the crushing of the front end absorbs some of the force of the collision. The person inside is still moving forward at 30 mph.

0.100 Seconds - Car Stops
0.120 Seconds - Person Hits Car Interior
One-fiftieth of a second after the car has stopped, the person slams into the dashboard and windshield. This is the human collision. In the car’s collision it takes 1/10 of a second to stop; in the human collision it takes only 1/100 of a second.

Belted

On impact, the car begins to crush and to slow down.

As the car slows down, the person moves forward until the seat belts restrain him. The belts keep him in his seat and keep his head and chest from striking the car interior.

Being fastened to the framework of the car, belted occupants are able to “ride down” the collision as part of the car. They are able to take advantage of the car’s slower stop, as it crushes and absorbs energy. For belted people there is no human collision.
PROTECT YOUR BABY IN THE CAR

1. Before Your Baby Is Born
   - Use lap-shoulder belt Low and snug

2. After Your Baby Is Born
   - Baby rides in car safety seat
     - Infant Seat
     - Infant position
     - Toddler position
     - or Convertible
   - Never carry baby in your arms

3. Making Your Baby Comfortable
   - Clothing
     - With legs
     - For snug fit of harness
     - Do not use
     - Papoose bunting
     - Sack sleeper

4. Common Mistakes
   - Support baby’s head and body
     - Rolled diapers, blankets
   - Position of baby in car seat
     - Back flat — baby comfortable
     - Back curved — baby uncomfortable
   - In cold weather
     - Do not wrap baby in blanket
     - Causes bad fit of harness
     - Cut holes in blanket, pull straps through
     - Buckle harness, fold blanket over
     - Harness not snug
     - Seat belt not tight
     - Seat belt in wrong place
     - Harness not used
     - Travel bed
     - Cloth carrier
     - Household carrier
BACKING YOUR VEHICLE

Backing is a dangerous maneuver because of restricted visibility and should be done with great caution. You should use the following procedures to back a vehicle with safety:

- Visually check the area to the rear of the vehicle before entering.
- Turn around and look to the rear; do not rely on rear-view mirrors. The view through rear-view mirrors is too small to use for this purpose.
- If you cannot see to the rear, have someone outside of the vehicle guide you.
- When the backing movement is first started, apply the brakes gently to insure proper operation.
- Always back at a slow rate of speed.
- Watch the front of the vehicle for clearance if you are backing and turning at the same time.
- Avoid backing into traffic. Try to park the vehicle so that you will enter traffic in a forward direction. Always back into the lane nearest the edge of the roadway when traffic is clear.
- Avoid backing across or into a roadway whenever possible.

LOOK BACK BEFORE DRIVING FROM CURB
LOOK. SIGNAL. YIELD

The chief responsibility for avoiding a collision lies with the driver who is leaving a parking space.

Exercise extraordinary caution when backing up in residential areas. Children often play behind and between parked vehicles.

ENTERING TRAFFIC

Entry into traffic is usually made from a driveway or a roadside parking position. You should use the following procedures to enter traffic safely:

Entry from a Driveway

- Always stop before entering the roadway. The stop should be made before crossing the sidewalk area. Failure to stop is unlawful.
- Move forward slowly. Watch for pedestrians and oncoming vehicles.
- Insure that the traffic lane is clear of oncoming vehicles.
- Enter the nearest lane in a right turn whenever possible.
- After you are in the traffic lane, accelerate to traffic speed.

Entry from a Roadside parked Position

- If parallel parked, move forward into the nearest traffic lane when there is sufficient space in oncoming traffic.
- If diagonal parked, you will have to first back into the traffic lane. This is a much more dangerous and difficult maneuver and requires more time to complete.
ROUNDABOUT

A roundabout is designed to meet the needs of all roadway users—drivers, pedestrians, pedestrians with disabilities, and bicyclists. A roundabout is a one-way circular intersection in which entering traffic must yield the right-of-way to circulating traffic. Each road approaching the roundabout is marked with a yield sign and may also have yield line markings on the pavement.

Tips for driving through a roundabout:

- Slow down as you approach the roundabout.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists as you enter and exit the roundabout.
- Look to the left for traffic and yield to traffic, including bicyclists, already in the roundabout.
- Drive to the right of the central island and proceed in a counterclockwise direction.
- Keep your speed low while in the roundabout.
- Use your right turn signal to exit the roundabout.
- If you miss your exit, drive through the roundabout again until you reach your exit.

CHOOSING A PROPER TRAFFIC LANE

One Lane in the Direction of Travel. You have no choice; you must use that lane. In congested areas you must use great care to avoid conflicts with other vehicles and pedestrians.

Two Lanes in the Direction of Travel. In open area when traffic is free-flowing, use the right lane; use the left lane for passing or when vehicles are entering from the right. In heavy traffic or in congested areas use either lane but keep up with traffic. Move at a steady speed. Avoid continual lane changing (lane hopping).

Three or More Lanes in the Direction of Travel. Choose the center lanes as there will be less traffic conflicts. Leave the right and left lanes available for vehicles entering and leaving the roadway. Maintain a steady speed with the flow of traffic and keep lane changes to a minimum. Use the right lane if you are moving slower than other traffic.

LANE CHANGING

Lane changes should be kept to a minimum as it is a movement that could conflict with other traffic.

When a lane change is necessary, use the following procedures:

- Check highway and traffic conditions ahead, to the sides, and to the rear. Use your rear-view mirrors and physically check the blind spots (turn your head and look).
- Signal your intention well in advance. The law requires that you signal for at least 100 feet (30m) before you start the lane change.
- When there is ample clearance in the other lane, make a gradual, steady movement into the other lane. AVOID ABRUPT MOVEMENTS: YOU MAY OVERCONTROL OR LOSE CONTROL OF YOUR VEHICLE. It may be necessary to adjust the speed of your vehicle slightly to avoid conflict with traffic. It is best to slow slightly and move in behind a vehicle than it is to speed up and cut in ahead. When you move in behind a vehicle, you always have that vehicle in sight and there is less annoyance to its driver.
• Don’t force your way into the space between vehicles that have the minimum safe following distance or less. This is a discourteous and dangerous action which causes other drivers to reduce the spacing interval between vehicles to deny you space to change lanes. If you allow ample time and signal properly, other courteous drivers will be inclined to allow you space to make the change.
• ALWAYS YIELD TO VEHICLES IN THE OTHER LANE WHEN CHANGING LANES. If the desired lane is congested, enter at the end of the line; don’t run up ahead and crowd in. If you cannot make the lane change at the desired location, remain in your lane until you can safely make the change; even if you are inconvenienced.
• NEVER CHANGE LANES WHEN APPROACHING OR MOVING THROUGH INTERSECTIONS AND CROSSWALKS.

VEHICLE SPEED

“Excessive speed for conditions” is most often listed as the cause of accidents. The cause of the excessive speed is seldom determined but whether it is due to intoxication, inattention, competition, etc., it is directly controlled by the driver. Unfortunately, most vehicles can attain speeds that are far beyond the capabilities of the driver, the road, and the vehicle itself.

The proper safe vehicle speed must be adjusted to traffic, weather, and road conditions and should always be within the posted speed limits.

You should use the following procedures in maintaining a safe vehicle speed:
• Keep pace with traffic. Vehicles moving in the same direction at the same speed never collide. If you move faster than other traffic, you constantly cause additional conflicts with other vehicles. If you cannot keep up with traffic, move as far to the right as possible.
• Maintain a safe following interval. One of the most common types of accident, striking the vehicle ahead, is usually caused by following too closely. To insure adequate interval, note when the vehicle ahead is opposite a tree, a telephone pole or other marker, then start counting at a normal rate “one thousand one, one thousand two, etc.” If you get to the word two before your vehicle reaches the marker, you have at least a two second interval. You should never have less. Following too closely reduces your ability to see road and traffic conditions ahead and you will be unable to avoid trouble when it develops.
• Maintain a steady speed. Constantly changing speed confuses other drivers as to your intentions. Bursts of speed and heavy braking are both wasteful and dangerous.
• Reduce your speed when you encounter poor road or weather conditions. At slower speeds you can maintain better control of your vehicle and you will have more time to avoid dangerous situations.
• Never let your emotions determine the speed of your vehicle. Never be in a hurry, you may never arrive at all.

TURNS AND CURVES
Turns are changes of direction from a traffic lane made at intersections or driveways. Curves are changes in direction of the road or traffic lane. In some cases the safe procedures are similar:
• Get into the proper lane for a turn well in advance. Turn from the traffic lane nearest the direction of the turn and into the nearest traffic lane available. If you are not in the proper lane when you want to turn, continue on and make the turn elsewhere. Don’t force your way into the proper lane or make abrupt last minute lane changes.
• Make precise turns; don’t swing wide or cut short.
• Slow to a proper speed before you enter a curve or begin a turn. Maintain a steady speed while in the curve or turn. Braking or an abrupt change of speed in a turn or curve can cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
• Avoid left and “U” turns whenever possible. These turns conflict more with other traffic, are much more hazardous than right turns and also impede other traffic.
• Use great care in watching for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorcyclists when making turns; they may be hidden by other vehicles, darkness or poor weather.
• Always bring your vehicle to a complete stop before making a right turn when facing a red traffic signal.
• Use extra caution on curves and turns in poor weather conditions or when there is gravel, sand, or mud on the road.
• When making a right turn at an intersection, do not drive in a bike lane.

OVERTAKING AND PASSING
Overtaking and passing another vehicle is hazardous on two or three lane roads where a lane for traffic moving in the opposite direction must be used to complete the
passing maneuver. Improper procedures can cause a head-on collision. Use the following procedures for safe passing:

- Pass only if the vehicle ahead is moving below the safe speed.
- Don’t attempt to pass a vehicle ahead simply because it is there.
- Don’t attempt to pass vehicles merely to gain a few car lengths in moderate or heavy traffic.
- In a line of vehicles, allow the vehicles ahead to pass the lead vehicle before you attempt to pass.
- Pass on the left except when the vehicle you are overtaking is making or about to make a left turn. Pass vehicles making left turns carefully on the right. NEVER DRIVE ONTO THE ROAD SHOULDER TO PASS A VEHICLE MAKING A LEFT TURN.
- Obey all signs and traffic lane markings which restrict or prohibit passing.
- Allow ample following distance between your vehicle and the overtaken vehicle so that you can observe any opposing or conflicting traffic.
- Check ahead to see that there is no opposing or conflicting traffic, then SIGNAL that you intend to move to the left.
- Physically check behind to see that there are no vehicles attempting to pass your vehicle.
- Sound your horn so that the driver ahead knows that you are going to pass.
- Accelerate to passing speed in your lane of travel. Then move left and begin to pass.
- If a conflict appears before you have completed passing, brake sharply and return to the lane behind the overtaken vehicle. Do not attempt to increase your speed to complete passing. Speed can be reduced more quickly by applying the brakes than it can be increased by applying more power.
- Move back into the proper traffic lane when you can see the overtaken vehicle in your interior rear-view mirror.

On roadways where there are two or more lanes for traffic moving in the same direction, do not move into a lane for opposing traffic when attempting to pass. You may pass a vehicle on either side by using the proper lane change procedures. Be extra careful about passing on the right because you will approach the overtaken vehicle in the driver’s blind spot.

IN ALL PASSING SITUATIONS YOU SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO PASS ANOTHER VEHICLE WHEN APPROACHING OR MOVING THROUGH AN INTERSECTION OR CROSSWALK.
PASSING PARKED CARS
Use care when passing cars parked by the roadside. These vehicles obstruct your view of possible conflict with other vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians. Be alert to the possibility that a parked car may suddenly move into your traffic lane or that a door may be opened into the path of your vehicle.

Watch for these clues:
• Movement within the vehicle or within the vicinity of the vehicle.
• Stop lamps, back-up lamps or signal lamps that are illuminated.
• Smoke or visible vapor from the exhaust pipe.
• A turning movement of the front wheels.

When you approach a vehicle that has just stopped in a parked position, assume that the driver will open the door as you approach.

STOPPING IN TRAFFIC
Stopping unnecessarily in a traffic lane is dangerous, discourteous, inconsiderate and illegal. Stops make to load or unload passengers or cargo or to converse with other drivers or pedestrians must be made in a designated parking space, loading zone or other place out of a traffic lane.

You should not stop your vehicle within an intersection or a crosswalk. NEVER DRIVE YOUR VEHICLE INTO AN INTERSECTION OR A CROSSWALK UNLESS THERE IS SPACE FOR YOUR ENTIRE VEHICLE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE INTERSECTION OR CROSSWALK.

USE OF BRAKES
Brakes are devices used to stop and hold a vehicle in a fixed position. Brakes stop a vehicle by converting the vehicle’s energy of motion into heat and wasting it. Every time you use the brakes you waste the money you paid for fuel and cause wear on the brakes and tires. Careful use of the brakes can save considerable energy and money in replacing fuel, brakes and tires. Avoid bursts of speed followed by heavy braking.

A hard application of the brakes will cause one or more wheels to slide on the road. If the wheel(s), especially the front wheel(s), continues to slide, you will not have control of the vehicle. If you are in danger of striking another vehicle, a person or object,
don’t just jam on the brakes and slide the wheels; you will almost certainly strike the thing you are trying to avoid. Instead, apply and release the brakes rapidly and STEER the vehicle toward a clear area. Steer off the road if necessary but avoid hitting people, trees, utility poles and substantial objects or structures.

Avoid braking while turning; slow down before you turn. Use the brakes very cautiously if there is water, ice, snow, frost, sand or gravel on the surface of the road.

Always test the action of the brakes after driving through water. If the braking action has been reduced, apply the brakes lightly several times until proper braking action has been restored.

Avoid resting your foot on the brake pedal while you drive. This causes the brake (stop) lamps to be activated and gives the following drivers an improper signal. It will also cause the brakes to be partly applied in many vehicles and result in excessive brake wear.

If the brake warning lamp on the instrument panel lights up when you apply the brakes, the brake system has partially failed and immediate repair is required.

Always start slowing your vehicle as soon as it becomes apparent that braking action will be required ahead. Make smooth steady brake applications. When stopping in traffic, stop far enough behind the vehicle ahead so that you can see the point where the rear tires of the vehicle ahead rest on the road.

Avoid prolonged brake applications as this causes the brakes to heat up and become much less effective. Usually prolonged brake use can be avoided by shifting to a lower gear and allowing the engine to assist in holding the vehicle speed down.

**DOWNSHIFTING**

“Downshifting” is the procedure of selecting a lower transmission gear range while the vehicle is in motion. This procedure can be used with both manual and automatic transmissions. Downshifting is used for two purposes: (1) To obtain greater braking action from the engine when reducing speed or when maintaining a reduced speed on a downgrade; and (2) to obtain increased performance when accelerating to a higher speed.

1. Downshifting is a proper procedure when used to obtain additional braking effect from the engine when going down a steep grade. The downshift should be made before starting the downgrade because it is more difficult to downshift at higher speeds.

   *Manual Transmissions.* All modern passenger car manual transmissions are “synchronized” so that any forward gear range may be selected when the clutch pedal is depressed with the car in motion. The downshift procedure is simply depress the clutch pedal, move the shift lever to the next lower gear, and SLOWLY release the clutch pedal.

   On non-synchronized manual transmissions the technique is more difficult as it requires that the engine speed for the lower gear range be matched with the vehicle speed before the shift can be made. This procedure is sometimes called “double clutching” and should not be attempted without prior practice and experience.

   *Automatic Transmissions.* On most automatic transmissions a downshift from the “drive” position to the next lower gear can be accomplished at normal speeds by
merely moving the selector level to the next lower position. At high speeds (60+ miles per hour) (97+ km/h) most automatic transmissions will not downshift. In this case it is necessary to reduce the vehicle speed to allow the automatic transmission to downshift. The practice of downshifting as a regular routine IS NOT RECOMMENDED because it causes a rapid deceleration of the vehicle without a warning (stop lamp) signal to following drivers. Downshifting to reduce speed should be used only to supplement brake action.

2. Downshifting to obtain increased acceleration performance with manual transmissions is accomplished in the same manner as previously indicated except that after the shift is accomplished the engine speed is increased to obtain the desired acceleration.

At normal highway speeds all passenger car automatic transmissions will downshift automatically when the accelerator pedal is fully depressed. CAUTION: DOWN-SHIFTING AT HIGHER SPEEDS MAY ACTUALLY DECREASE THE ABILITY OF THE VEHICLE TO ACCELERATE. Abuse of the downshifting technique subjects the engine and transmission to great stress and can lead to costly repairs.

Downshifting may properly be used as an emergency procedure to slow the vehicle in case of a partial or complete brake failure.

Use extra care when downshifting because the unequal forces developed may cause vehicle control problems on a slippery road surface.

**PARKING**

Always park your vehicle at a location that is clear of traffic and where it is readily visible to the drivers of approaching vehicles. Avoid locations that are hidden, such as just beyond a curve or the crest of a hill.

**PARKING ON A HILL**

Make sure your car does not roll into traffic if the brakes do not hold when parking on a hill. Always set the hand brake. Shift to the PARK position if you have one. If not, shift to reverse or low gear.

If you park downhill, with or without a curb, turn your front wheels to the right (A). If you face uphill, with a curb, turn your front wheels away from the curb (B). If there is no curb, turn your front wheels toward the edge of the road (C).
ANGLE PARKING

Keep safe clearance.
Drive forward into space—equal space on each side between lines.

PARALLEL PARKING

STEP 1:
Signal, stop even with front car about 18 inches from it, rear bumpers even.

STEP 2:
Back slowly, turning steering wheel sharp right until your car is at about 45-degree angle with the street. Quickly straighten front wheels and back slowly.

STEP 3:
When front bumper is even with other car’s back bumper, turn wheels sharply and rapidly to left as far as possible. Back slowly to car behind without touching it.

STEP 4:
Turn steering wheel sharply to the right and slowly pull forward. Center car in space.

Front and rear bumpers should not be closer than two feet from the other vehicles when in parked position unless the street is otherwise marked.
PARKING RESTRICTIONS
Where angle parking is not clearly designated, a vehicle must be parked parallel to the curb, heading in the direction of traffic. When parallel parked, the vehicle’s curbside wheels shall be within 12 inches of the curb (30cm), or completely within the marked parking stall.

TURN, STOP AND HAZARD WARNING SIGNALS
Electric Signals. Electric stop signals have been standard equipment on vehicles for more than 50 years and most vehicles manufactured since the early 1950s have been equipped with electric turn signals. Since 1968 all vehicles have been equipped with electric turn, stop, and hazard warning (4-way flash) signals. Most vehicles operating today were originally completely equipped with electric signals.

Advantages–Electric Signals
• Maybe be instantly operated from a closed vehicle.
• Are readily visible in darkness or inclement weather.
• Are visible from all angles except the immediate sides of the signaling vehicle.
• Can seldom be misinterpreted or confused with other activities.
• Allow the driver to use both hands to control the vehicle when signaling.

Disadvantages–Electric Signals
• Failure to cancel the operation of a turn signal.
• Failure of the signal to function properly.

Failure to cancel is usually caused by making a turn or lane change which is too small to cause operation of the self-cancelling mechanism and failure of the driver to observe the indicator on the instrument panel. Improper functioning of a turn signal should be readily apparent to the driver by observation of the indicator. Any abnormal function of the indicator lamp is a clue to improper operation of the signal system.

Hand Signals. Hand signals continue to be an accepted method by which the driver can indicate his intentions to other highway users. Knowledge of the proper hand signals is required if the electric signals fail.

Advantages–Hand Signals
• Are usually not subject to failure.

Disadvantages–Hand Signals
• Are difficult to distinguish from hand and arm motions which the driver does not intend as signals.
• Are difficult to see in darkness and inclement weather.
• Are not readily visible to drivers on the right of the signaling vehicle.
• Require that the driver’s window be open.
• Require the driver to use one hand to control the vehicle when signaling.

HAZARD WARNING SIGNALS
Hazard warning signals (4-way flash) are intended to warn other drivers that a vehicle is in a hazardous position on the roadway. THIS SIGNAL SHOULD NEVER BE USED WHEN THE VEHICLE IS MOVING. Operation of this signal is shown by the flashing of all turn signal indicators. There is no hand signal designated for this purpose.
STOP SIGNALS

Electric stop lamps are automatically operated when the service brake is used. At night the illumination of the stop lamps should be visible when you look to the rear of the vehicle while depressing the brake pedal. A hand signal may be used by the driver to indicate either braking or slowing of the vehicle.

USE OF TURN SIGNALS

Turn signals are used to indicate your intent to other users of the highway. The use of a signal does not give you the right to make the intended movement. You alone are responsible for making the movement safely and in a manner that does not interfere with other highway users.

Traffic regulations require that you display a turn signal for at least 100 feet (30 meters) before making every turn or lane change. Always signal for a length of time sufficient to allow other highway users to see the signal and understand your intent.

If you must slow your vehicle before you can make the intended turn or lane change, it is important that you begin signaling before slowing your vehicle. This will alert other drivers to the possibility that you might reduce the speed of your vehicle.

Some common signaling errors are:
- Failure to signal an intended turn when stopped at an intersection until the traffic signal changes.
- Failure to signal, giving an insufficient signal, or signaling after the turn or lane change has been started. (Usually accompanied by abrupt turns or lane changes or forcing entry into a line of vehicles.)
- Failure to signal for an intended right turn.
- Failure to signal when in a lane that requires that you turn.
- Failure to signal when it appears that there is no one to observe the signal.

Failure to use a turn signal properly is a frequent driver error. Failure to signal properly indicates driver ignorance, arrogance, or uncertainty and shows a lack of consideration and courtesy towards others. It may also indicate that the driver has no idea of what he is going to do next and is thus unable to indicate his intentions to anyone else.

THREE IMPORTANT RULES ABOUT TURN SIGNALS:
- SIGNAL EVERY TIME YOU INTEND TO MAKE A TURN OR LANE CHANGE.
- BEGIN SIGNALING WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE INTENDED TURN OR LANE CHANGE SO OTHERS HAVE TIME TO SEE AND UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU INTEND TO DO.
- THE SIGNAL ONLY INDICATES YOUR INTENT; IT DOES NOT GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE MOVEMENT.

The proper use of turn signals is an easily acquired good driving habit.

TRAFFIC MIX

When driving, you must share the road with drivers of vehicles of all sizes; trucks, buses, passenger cars, motorcycles, bicycles and pedestrians. Larger vehicles afford more protection to occupants and are easier to see but are more difficult for the driver to operate. Small vehicles offer less protection to occupants and are less visible but
are more agile and easier to operate. When you drive you must recognize the capabil-
ities and limitations of other vehicles as well as your own.

As a driver you should be very careful to look for smaller vehicles, especially
motorcycles and bicycles, and insure that you can be seen by the driver of larger vehi-
cles such as trucks and buses.

Give motorcyclists, bicyclists and pedestrians plenty of room on the road and use
extra caution to look for them when making turns or changing lanes. A MOTOR-
CYCLIST IS ENTITLED TO THE ENTIRE WIDTH OF HIS TRAFFIC LANE.

SPECIAL DRIVING TECHNIQUES

DRIVING IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

Hawaii does not experience the widely different kinds of weather that many other
areas do. Here weather problems associated with driving are primarily due to rain with
some isolated fog on roads at high elevations and, occasionally, gusty winds.

Rain. Rain causes two basic driving problems; it reduces the driver’s visibility and
changes the condition of the road surface.

The first few drops of rain are a danger signal to a defensive driver. Roads are most
slippery at this time because the oil dropped from passing cars has not been washed
away. Driving on a road covered with oil and water can be like driving on ice. You should
reduce speed, use extra caution, and allow at least twice the normal following distance.

Prolonged or heavy rain will cause a layer of water on the surface of the road. At
speeds up to 35 miles per hour (56 km/h), tires with good highway type tread will
“wipe” the road surface the way a windshield wiper cleans the windshield. As speed
increases, the water cannot be removed fast enough and the tires start to ride up on the
layer of water like a surfboard. This is called “hydroplaning”.

Partial hydroplaning may start at 35 miles per hour (56 km/h). The extent of
hydroplaning increases with speed and with the amount of water on the highway. At
55 miles per hour (89 km/h) in a heavy rain the tires may lose all contact with the
pavement. When this happens, you cannot brake, accelerate or turn; YOU HAVE NO
CONTROL OVER YOUR VEHICLE.
To prevent hydroplaning you should:

- Insure that the tires on the vehicle have good tread depth. Worn or bald tires will hydroplane at lower speeds.
- Insure that the tires on the vehicle are inflated to the proper pressure. Under-inflated tires hydroplane at lower speeds.
- Reduce the speed of the vehicle. Hydroplaning occurs most frequently at higher speeds.

Brakes often become wet after driving through deep water or prolonged driving in heavy rain. They may pull to one side or the other, or they may not hold at all. Reduce speed and apply gentle pressure on the brake pedal until your brakes work properly again.

Rain reduces you ability to see clearly. Rain may be so heavy that you are unable to see clearly with the windshield wipers operating. When heavy rain reduces your visibility, reduce your speed; turn on your head lamps (low beam) so that others may see you. If the rain is so heavy that you are unable to see clearly, drive onto the road shoulder or other clear area and stop until the rain lets up.

Avoid driving through flooded areas; you may become stranded. Never drive through a flooded area where water over one foot deep (30 cm) is moving swiftly. The water will sweep your vehicle off the road.

**Fog.** In Hawaii fog almost never occurs at lower elevations. Fog may be encountered on roads at higher elevations where low-lying clouds meet the ground surface. Patches of fog are particularly hazardous because you may encounter them suddenly without being aware of their presence.

It is best to avoid driving in fog but if you must, you should:*  
- Sharply reduce speed and turn on low beam head lamps. Never use the high beam because the reflection especially at night will reduce your ability to see and the light will reduce the approaching driver’s ability to see.
- Be prepared for an emergency stop.
- If you are unable to see at least two car lengths (40 feet or 12 meters), pull completely off the pavement and stop. Turn on the hazard warning signals.

**Winter Driving.** Winter creates additional driving hazards not encountered in Hawaii. If you plan to drive in other areas under winter conditions, the following suggestions will help. Unless you have experience, it is safest to avoid driving under these conditions.

- Equip your car with snowtread tires.
- Get the feel of the road. Start out slowly. Test the brakes gently after the vehicle is in motion.
- Keep the car windows clear of snow, ice and frost.
- Keep a safe distance from the car ahead. Watch for other vehicles that are having trouble with slippery road surfaces.
- Drive at a reduced speed. Drive on the clear, dry portions of the road wherever possible.

*These precautions also apply when visibility is reduced for any reason; heavy rain, smoke, fog, heavy snow, etc.
• Watch for danger spots. Ice may accumulate on or under bridges even when the rest of the road is clear. Snow and ice melt more slowly in shady areas. Watch for shiny spots in the road; they could be icy.
• Use brakes very cautiously and intermittently if you must stop on packed snow or ice. If you lockup the wheels, you will lose control of your vehicle. Steer into a clear area if a collision seems imminent.

Dawn and Dusk Driving. When driving towards the rising or setting sun, use sun visors and sun glasses. Insure that the windshield and windows of the vehicle are absolutely clean to reduce glare and improve vision.

For a short period before the sun rises and after the sun sets there is not enough light to see objects clearly. This condition is worse when the sky is cloudy. During this time of the day you should turn the head lamps on low beam so others can see you. Be alert for unlighted objects and pedestrians.

Night Driving. No one can see as well at night as they can in the daylight. In addition, a driver’s exposure to alternate light and darkness prevents him from attaining his best seeing ability at night.

You should take the following precautions to insure safety when driving at night:
• Protect your eyes from bright light for several hours before you drive.
• Insure that the windshield and windows are thoroughly clean, inside and out.
• Insure that all lamps on the vehicle are operating properly.
• Reduce your speed so that you can stop within the distance you can see ahead.
• Do not use your high beam head lamps when approaching or following other vehicles.
• If the lights of an approaching vehicle are too bright, flash your high beams once and look at the right edge of the road and use lane markings or reflectors as a guide.
• Recognize that red lane marking reflectors mean you are going the wrong direction in the traffic lane.

FREEWAY DRIVING
Freeways are safe high-speed roadways. They are safe and efficient because there are no steep hills or sharp curves to restrict sight distance; there are no stop signs, no traffic signals, no railroad crossings, and no entrances or exits except at planned locations. Driving on a freeway is different from driving on other highways. By adhering to the following special procedures and rules your trip on the freeway will be safer.
PLAN YOUR TRIP

Use a Map

- Plan exactly where you going to enter and leave the freeway.
- Be sure that your vehicle is properly equipped with gasoline, oil, water and good tires. Service stations are located off the freeway.
- A BREAKDOWN ON THE FREEWAY CAN CREATE AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATION.

ENTERING THE FREEWAY

- Follow the signs directing you to the correct freeway entrance.
- Observe traffic in the entrance lane. If it is congested, slow down or stop near the entrance (see illustration). DO NOT MOVE SLOWLY TO THE END OF THE ENTRANCE LANE AND STOP. It is very difficult and dangerous to attempt to enter freeway traffic when you are stopped at the end of the entrance lane.
- When the entrance lane is clear, use your turn signal to indicate that you are going to merge into the freeway traffic lane; then increase the speed of your vehicle to match that of the freeway traffic.
- Look to see if there are any oncoming vehicles in the freeway near lane. If not, move into the freeway near lane and maintain your speed. If there are oncoming vehicles, slow your vehicle slightly and move in behind the oncoming vehicle.

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DRIVING ON THE FREEWAY

- Be attentive to all signs.
- Through traffic should use the left or center lanes and move at or near the posted speed limit.
- The right lane is used by vehicles that are unable to keep up with the through traffic.
- The right lane should remain open for traffic entering and leaving the freeway as much as possible.
- If you are in the right lane, allow space for entering vehicles.
- Avoid lane changes.
- Signal well in advance of any intended lane changes.
- Use your rear-view mirrors.
- Look back before changing lanes.

- NEVER STOP ON THE FREEWAY UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY UNAVOIDABLE.
- Do not slow down unnecessarily.
- Do not follow too closely. Rear end collisions are common on freeways and usually involve several vehicles.
- Never cross the center divider of a freeway; never turn around on a freeway; never back up on a freeway.
- If for any reason you must proceed in the opposite direction, go to the next exit, leave the freeway and re-enter in the opposite direction.

EMERGENCY STOPS

- Try to get off the freeway at the next exit if you can.
- If you must stop, drive entirely off the roadway as far away from traffic as possible.
- Never stand or walk on the freeway.
- Do not stop to assist other drivers in trouble but report the situation to the proper authorities.
LEAVING THE FREEWAY
- Watch the exit signs so you can choose the proper exit.
- Use your turn signal to indicate your intention to exit.
- Move into the exit lane.
- Maintain your speed until you are completely into the exit ramp, then slow down smoothly.
- If you pass the place where you intended to exit, DO NOT STOP; DO NOT BACK UP! Continue on to the next exit.

EMERGENCY DRIVING PROCEDURES
Obviously a procedure cannot be given for every possible kind of driving emergency. Some of the more common driving emergency procedures will be covered in the following paragraphs. The basic factors involved in all driving emergencies involve the use of brakes, steering and power. Remember these basic points:
- Try not to panic.
- Avoid slamming on the brakes and sliding the wheels. You cannot control a vehicle when the wheels are sliding.
- Try to steer into a less dangerous location. Apply maximum braking without sliding the wheels. If any wheel slides, release the brakes and reapply them when the vehicle is no longer sliding or skidding.
- Wear your safety belts so you can remain in a position to control your vehicle.
- Continue to try to control your vehicle even after striking another object.

TIRE BLOWOUTS
A tire blowout is the sudden release of air from a tire resulting in its collapse, and can cause you to lose control of the vehicle. Tire blowouts are most often the result of improper tire care and maintenance.
If you experience a tire blowout on your vehicle:
• DO NOT APPLY THE BRAKES. This may cause your vehicle to become uncontrollable.
• Grip the steering wheel firmly and steer to remain in your traffic lane. (There may be a strong pull to the right or the left, or the pull may be in one direction and then the other.)
• Reduce speed gradually without using the brakes until you are moving very slowly, then
• Apply the brakes lightly and pull off the road into a safe area. (You can drive for some distance with a blown out tire at a very slow speed without causing damage to the wheel rim.)

LOSS OF WHEEL
This is a rather uncommon emergency but if it should occur, use the same corrective procedure as for a tire blowout. A total or partial brake failure is likely when a wheel is lost. Once stopped, you will be unable to move the vehicle; it must be towed.

BRAKE FAILURE
Total brake failure is very unlikely on modern passenger cars. The service brake system is constructed so that partial braking is almost always possible. A partial failure will result in reduced braking ability and will be indicated by a warning light on the instrument panel.
If your brakes fail completely:
• Pump the brake pedal quickly; then
• Shift to a lower gear.
• Look for an escape route (a side road or a flat open area). Use lights and horn to warn others.
• Apply the parking brake gradually and bring your vehicle to a stop. (Do not apply the parking brake rapidly or with a great force or you may lose control of your vehicle.)

STEERING FAILURE
Complete steering failure is rather uncommon and almost never occurs on a properly maintained vehicle. If your vehicle is equipped with power steering, a partial loss of steering control may occur. In this case you will have to exert greater effort on the steering wheel to control the direction of the vehicle.
DO NOT GIVE UP, APPLY WHATEVER FORCE IS NECESSARY TO THE STEERING WHEEL TO CONTROL YOUR VEHICLE.

If the steering fails completely:
• Slowly reduce speed.
• Apply brakes as necessary to avoid striking any object and try to stop as smoothly as possible.

WHEELS OFF PAVEMENT

If your vehicle should slip off the edge of the road, loose gravel, dirt or the edge of the pavement may tend to keep the vehicle from returning to the paved surface smoothly. If this happens:
• DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FORCE THE VEHICLE BACK ONTO THE PAVEMENT BY JERKING THE STEERING WHEEL.
• Continue to drive with the wheels off the pavement and reduce speed.
• Use the brakes gently.
• When at a safe speed, turn the steering wheel to return to the pavement. Be prepared to make an immediate adjustment to remain in your traffic lane.

OVERTAKING VEHICLE IN DANGER

If another vehicle is attempting to overtake and pass you but cannot complete passing because of oncoming traffic, you can help avoid a collision by:
• Steering your vehicle as far to the right as you can with safety, even onto the shoulder if possible.
• If the passing vehicle continues to attempt to pass, slowing your vehicle so the passing vehicle may move into the lane ahead of you.
• If the passing vehicle appears to be slowing in an attempt to return to the lane behind your vehicle, accelerate your vehicle to allow the passing vehicle to return to the lane in the rear of your vehicle. (In either case be certain of the intentions of the driver of the passing vehicle before you change the speed of your vehicle.)

ONCOMING VEHICLE IN YOUR LANE

If you observe an oncoming vehicle in your traffic lane:
• Flash your lights and honk the horn.
• Quickly slow your vehicle and steer to the right out of the lane into any available clear area. DO NOT ENTER THE ONCOMING TRAFFIC LANE.
• Drive off the road if necessary. Avoid solid objects and pedestrians.

ACCELERATOR STUCK OPEN

If your vehicle’s accelerator sticks open, your vehicle will continue to maintain speed or accelerate even though you remove your foot from the accelerator pedal. Quite frequently this situation develops immediately after the pedal has been fully
depressed. This causes the vehicle to continue to accelerate rapidly. In any case you should:

- Slap the accelerator pedal hard with your foot.
- Turn the ignition off. (Use care to move the ignition switch only far enough to stop the engine and not engage the steering wheel locking mechanism. Vehicles equipped with power steering and power brakes will require increased effort on these controls.)
- Apply the brakes.
- Pull off the roadway into a safe area.

**POWER STEERING FAILURE**

This situation usually occurs in combination with engine failure or loss of the belt driving the power unit. In any case additional effort will be required to maintain steering control.

- Reduce speed.
- Drive to a safe area and stop.

**SKIDS**

Most skidding is caused by making sudden changes in direction or speed. Excessive speed for existing road and traffic conditions is the most common cause. Extra care should be used when driving on wet, slippery or gravel-covered road surfaces.

If your vehicle begins to skid, it is important to take immediate smooth corrective action before you lose control. Unless you have experienced a skid in a vehicle, proper corrective action may seem unnatural. It is important to remember that when you encounter a skid or control problem, you should stop or reduce whatever it was that you were doing when the problem started. To steer out of a skid:

- Avoid using the brakes. If the skid started when you applied the brakes, release the brakes.
- Ease off the accelerator. The skid may stop as soon as you do this.
- Turn the steering wheel in the direction that the rear of the vehicle is skidding. Turn the steering wheel firmly but do not make a large sudden turn of the wheel. If skidding to the right, turn the wheel to the right. Turn left for a skid to the left. As the skid stops, turn the steering to the straight ahead position.
- Overcorrecting may cause the vehicle to skid in the opposite direction. Steer gently into the skid again. Repeat this procedure until you have the vehicle under control.
**FIRE**

Fire may occur in any part of the vehicle where there is combustible material. Usually fires occur as the result of an overheated engine, an electrical short, a fuel leak, or an oil leak. Any burning odor should be immediately investigated. If fire occurs or is suspected in the vehicle:

- Drive to a safe area clear of traffic and stop.
- Turn the ignition switch and all other electrical switches off.
- Get all occupants out of and away from the vehicle and clear off the roadway. Poisonous fumes may rapidly fill the vehicle.
- If the fire is small, use a fire extinguisher, dirt, sand or a blanket to smother the fire. DO NOT USE WATER ON GASOLINE, OIL, OR ELECTRICAL FIRES.
- If a large gasoline or oil fire develops, you might not be able to extinguish it. Don’t try, seek assistance.

**BREAKDOWNS OR ENGINE FAILURE**

Fortunately the occurrence of most vehicle breakdowns are not dangerous but may create a hazardous situation. Often the vehicle stalls in a hazardous position in relation to other traffic.

- If possible, move the vehicle to a safe location.
- Keep vehicle occupants away from traffic. If the vehicle cannot be moved from a hazardous position but there is a safe location that can be reached by the vehicle occupants, move the occupants to the safe location.
- In all other cases, occupants should remain in the vehicle.
- Use hazard warning lights, flares, warning reflectors and a flashlight as required. These items should always be carried in your vehicle.
- Be cautious about those that offer help. Remain locked in the vehicle until you are sure of the person’s intentions. If in doubt, ask that the police be notified.
- Indicate the need for assistance by raising the hood of your vehicle. Tie a white cloth to the radio antenna or the door handle or use a sign made for the purpose if available.
- If you must leave your vehicle, lock it securely and return as soon as practicable.
- If you must walk along the highway, walk facing traffic and well clear of the roadway. Do not walk on freeways; stay with your vehicle until help arrives.
When you are driving on the streets and highways, you will have to share the road with vehicles that are much larger than ordinary passenger cars and light trucks. The operation of these trucks, tractor-semitrailers, truck trailers and buses requires special driving skill, attentiveness and consideration for other highway users. To insure your safety you and other highway users must also be aware of the limitations of these vehicles.

DRIVERS OF LARGE VEHICLES

Driver Licenses

Drivers of large vehicles must hold a valid driver’s license for the category of vehicle being driven. Information concerning all types of driver licenses may be found in Chapter I, Licensing of Drivers.

Professional Drivers

Many, if not most drivers of large vehicles, earn their living by operating these vehicles; it is their profession. Because they spend much more time driving than other drivers, they should be the most skilled, knowledgeable and experienced drivers on the highways. They should demonstrate the mark of the true professional by setting the example of proper, safe driving. Also, they are exposed to the hazards of driving for much greater periods of time than ordinary drivers.

Driver Responsibilities

Due to their large size and heavy weight these vehicles can cause great damage and injury when involved in an accident. The drivers of these vehicles must be constantly aware of the limitations and potential of their vehicles and recognize their responsibility to give proper consideration to other highway users as well as to their passengers and cargo.

LIMITATIONS OF LARGE VEHICLES

Visibility

Larger vehicles generally provide better forward visibility than other vehicles because the driver’s position is above most other vehicles. However, visibility to the sides and rear is severely limited; other traffic can only be seen by the use of mirrors and the area to the immediate rear of the vehicle is not visible to the driver.

- Drivers of large vehicles must make allowances for the greater width and length of their vehicles when turning, changing lanes or backing.
• Other drivers and highway users should allow the large vehicle driver additional space to make the maneuvers safely.

**Maneuvering Space**
Large vehicles require more space for turning movements.
• Drivers of large vehicles should use great caution when turning or backing to insure that the movement can be made without interference with other highway users.
• When near large vehicles, the drivers of other vehicles and other highway users should remain in a location where they can be seen by the driver of the large vehicle and where their view of other traffic is not blocked.

**Stopping Distance**
Large vehicles require greater stopping distances than other vehicles.
• Drivers of large vehicles must make allowances for the additional distance required to stop.
• When changing lanes or at intersections other drivers and highway users must make allowances for the increased stopping distance required by the large vehicles.

**Acceleration and Agility**
Large vehicles accelerate very slowly and cannot make maneuvers as quickly as other vehicles.
• Drivers of large vehicles should make allowances for the free movement of other vehicles when in traffic and avoid blocking several traffic lanes.
• Drivers must be aware that large vehicles may be travelling at a speed less than the posted speed limit and should use caution when approaching or passing.

**Downgrade Speed Control**
The continuous application of brakes to control speed on downgrades will cause the brakes to become ineffective. This condition is more dangerous with large vehicles.
• Drivers of large vehicles should use an appropriate lower gear to control speed on downgrades. Use the brakes only when stopping the vehicle.
• The drivers of other vehicles should be alert to overtaking large vehicles; move out of their way.

**Slipstream**
Large vehicles moving at or near maximum speeds cause wind gusts with a force great enough to cause direction changes in smaller vehicles. Drivers of smaller vehicles should be prepared to take proper corrective steering action when approaching or passing large vehicles that are moving at or near maximum speeds.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**
Many times large trucks carry material that is dangerous to persons or property. This material may be explosive, flammable, radioactive, poisonous, etc. Drivers of these vehicles are responsible for insuring that these materials are properly packaged and marked and that the vehicle is marked to indicate the type of material carried so that proper protective action can be taken in case of an accident.
EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Most large vehicles are required to carry emergency equipment such as fire extinguishers, flares, emergency reflectors, first aid kits, etc. Drivers of these vehicles must know what equipment is required and how and when to use it.

TOWING TRAILERS

Many passenger car and small truck drivers tow trailers of various types with their vehicles. You will find that many of the limitations that apply to large vehicles also apply when you are towing a trailer; particularly large trailers.

Rear-View Mirrors

If your trailer is large enough to obstruct your view through your inside rear-view mirror, you must have outside rear-view mirrors of proper size on both sides of your car.

Brakes

If your loaded trailer weighs more than half the weight of the towing vehicle or is 3,000 pounds or more, the trailer must be equipped with brakes, and breakaway protection.

Passengers

You should not permit passengers to ride in trailers. Riding in house trailers is prohibited.

Safety Chains

Your trailer must be equipped with safety chains. Safety chains must be attached to the frame of the towing vehicle and the trailer and not connected to a part of the trailer hitch.
Trailer Hitches

Insure that your vehicle is equipped with a proper hitch for the size and type of trailer being towed. Large trailers require special hitches. Don’t rely on bumper hitches for any trailer.

Trailer Load

Insure that the trailer load is properly balanced. About 10% to 15% of the trailer weight should be on the vehicle’s trailer hitch. If the weight is too great, you will have difficulty steering the vehicle. If the weight is too small, the trailer will “fishtail.” Don’t overload the trailer.

Be sure that the load is held securely in place.

Equipment

Insure that the trailer has:

• Wheels properly mounted and lubricated, and covered with fenders or mud guards.
• Good tires properly inflated.
• Tail, stop, turn signal, license plate, and, if required, side marker lamps and reflectors.
MOTORISTS AND MOTORCYCLES IN TRAFFIC

SHARING THE ROAD WITH MOTORCYCLES

Today’s motorcycle riders are friends, relatives, and neighbors, but many car drivers still have not adjusted to motorcycles appearing in traffic. Travelling by motorcycle is appealing to some people; they are fuel and space efficient and can be just plain fun to ride. But there is a flip side: motorcyclists are more vulnerable to injury than a car driver if involved in an accident. Research shows that over two-thirds of the car/motorcycle accidents are the result of a car driver turning in front of the motorcyclist. Motorcycles and cars need to mix in traffic without causing harm to each other. To do so, we need to understand more about motorcycles, and why riders do some of the things they do.
Motorcycles present a narrow silhouette and are usually much shorter in length than an automobile. The small profile of the motorcycle may make it appear farther away and travelling slower than it actually is. Because it is difficult to judge the motorcycle's distance and speed, car drivers need to take a second look, and then a third. Its small size also makes it more difficult to spot in traffic than another car. Some motorcycles take advantage of their small size and maneuverability. They may cut between cars and put themselves in places where drivers cannot see them. Be alert for a motorcycle to appear unexpectedly.

MAKE SURE YOU SEE THE MOTORCYCLE AND KNOW ITS SPEED BEFORE YOU START TO TURN OR ENTER AN INTERSECTION.
LANE POSITION

Because of a motorcycle’s size, its position within a lane of traffic will change as traffic conditions change. The motorcyclist will position himself in the lane to see and be seen. Often, this means riding in the left portion of the traffic lane to allow a better view of some traffic and road situations. It also makes the motorcycle more visible to other traffic. However, as traffic and road conditions change, the rider may move. This move could be to the center of the lane or even to the right side to avoid traffic or to be seen by others on the road.

Most drivers take for granted the ability of their automobile to handle minor road hazards such as potholes or railroad tracks. Minor problems for the four-wheeled vehicle can be major problems for motorcycles. The cyclist will change position within the lane to increase the distance from potential hazards. These lateral movements sometimes occur suddenly. Motorists need to be alert for these sudden changes in position and direction, and drive accordingly. Respect the vehicle space of a motorcycle and its position in traffic. Motorcycles are allowed the full width of a lane in which to maneuver. Refrain from sharing a lane with a motorcyclist. It restricts the rider’s ability to avoid hazardous situations.
Intersections are the most likely places for car/motorcycle collisions to occur. As stated earlier, this usually is the result of a car driver NOT SEEING the motorcycle and turning into the motorcycle’s path. Misinterpreting a rider’s intentions can also lead to problems. A cyclist will change lane position to prepare for upcoming traffic conditions. The rider will move to one side of the lane in preparation for a turn or possibly to move away from a hazard unseen by other motorists. Do not assume the rider’s intention until the maneuver is unmistakably started, such as a turn into an intersection or driveway. Also, turn signals do not automatically shut off on a motorcycle and riders occasionally forget to cancel them after a turn is completed. Make sure you know what the rider is going to do before you move into the motorcycle’s path.
FOLLOWING DISTANCE

When driving behind a motorcycle, allow at least a 2-second following distance. This provides the cyclist enough room to maneuver or stop in an emergency. Due to its vulnerable nature and the difficulty motorists have in judging a motorcycle’s speed and distance, space between the two vehicles should be increased to avoid sudden braking. Both riders and drivers are more likely to make incorrect decisions if there is not enough stopping distance or ability to see and react to conditions. This leads to accidents. A rider’s chance of injury is greater if forced to avoid obstacles ahead, as well as a driver following too closely.
PASSING AND BEING PASSED

The rules for passing other vehicles are similar for motorcycles. The motorist being overtaken by a cycle should maintain lane position and speed. Allow the cyclist to complete the pass and assume proper lane position as quickly as possible. When passing a motorcycle, allow a full lane to the motorcycle. Never crowd into the same lane as the cycle. Returning to the original lane too soon can force a rider to swerve to the right into traffic or off the road.

OPERATOR’S LICENSE

Motorcycles are different to operate than an automobile; they require special knowledge and skills. It only makes sense that a motorcycle operator license be required. Most states now have a separate knowledge and skill test that must be completed for motorcycle operation. Passing both tests qualifies the rider for a license allowing motorcycle operation. Also, motorcycles must be registered and insured to the same standards as an automobile.

What all this means is, motorcycles are a full partner in the traffic mix and must be treated with the same courtesies. Watch for the unexpected and give them their share of the road; a rider may be the neighbor next door.
CHAPTER XII
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

SUMMARY OF FACTS
- In Hawaii 20% of all traffic fatalities are pedestrians.
- Most of those killed are non-drivers.
- Almost half of those fatally injured are under age 15 or over age 65.
- Almost 90% of the fatal accidents occur in the roadway; over 50% while crossing the roadway.
- Only slightly more than 10% of the fatalities occur off the roadway.

Upon reviewing this summary it is obvious that the roadway is the domain of the motor vehicle. A pedestrian entering the roadway has no physical protection against the motor vehicle. His safety depends entirely upon his and the driver’s alertness and actions.

The summary also shows that accidents happen most often to the young and the elderly. Children are quick and see well but they are not familiar with traffic and underestimate the danger and destructive force of a motor vehicle. Older persons are often handicapped by poor vision, slow reaction time, the inability to move fast, and are more easily injured or killed.

To reduce or eliminate your chances of becoming involved in Hawaii’s pedestrian accident statistics, put the following rules into practice when you DRIVE and when you WALK:

Your Responsibility as a DRIVER
- Slow down and be prepared to stop whenever you see persons walking on or crossing the roadway and whenever you observe children near the roadway. Sound your horn, as necessary, to give warning to any pedestrian upon a roadway. (Required by law)
- Stop for all blind persons in the roadway (identified by a white cane or guide dog) regardless of the traffic signal indication or traffic situation.
- Never drive through a pedestrian safety zone. (Prohibited by law)
- Never pass a vehicle stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross the street. (Prohibited by law)
- Be especially watchful for children near schools, parks, playgrounds and in residential areas. Stop upon the signal of any school crossing guard.
- Watch for pedestrians when turning at intersections and when entering or leaving driveways. (Required by law)
- Look for approaching vehicles before you or your passengers alight from your vehicle. Get out of your vehicle on the side away from traffic whenever possible.

Your Responsibility as a Pedestrian
- Cross only at crosswalks. Jaywalking is illegal.
- Obey all traffic laws and signals. (Required by law)
- Watch for cars at all times when you are walking in the roadway. Don’t assume that the lines on the pavement or the traffic signals guarantee your safety.
- Never start across the street on a green light that has been showing for some time. Wait for the green signal on the next cycle.
• Never enter the street or crosswalk when there are vehicles approaching close by. They may not be able to stop. (Prohibited by law)
• Look for turning vehicles before crossing the street.
• Never run alongside of or across a street.
• Walk on the left side of the street facing oncoming traffic.
• Do not walk or stand upon the travelled portion of the roadway to solicit for any reason or to guard a vehicle or parking place. (Prohibited by law)
• Wear bright colored clothing when walking on or alongside the roadway.
• Do not walk on or near the road if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
• Insure that your children do not play in the street.

**STOPPING FOR A SCHOOL BUS**

Whenever a school bus is stopped on a highway with alternating red signal lamps flashing, the driver of any motor vehicle on the same highway in the lane occupied by the school bus and all lanes adjacent to the lane occupied by the school bus shall stop the driver’s vehicle before reaching the school bus and shall not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or the flashing red signal lamps are turned off.

![Diagram of school bus and vehicles stopping](image)

However, vehicles proceeding in the opposite direction on a divided highway are not required to stop. A divided highway is two roadways separated by a strip of land or other space not intended for vehicular travel.

Motorists travelling at the time school buses make their runs should be on the alert. The presence of school children waiting along the roadway in the morning indicates a school bus is in the area. In addition, there is a possibility of waiting children darting in front of traffic.
CHAPTER XIII
BICYCLES

MOTORISTS

As our roads and highways become more crowded, it is increasingly important to safely share the road with bicyclists. Bicycles are legally considered vehicles, and as such have all of the rights and responsibilities that other vehicles have. However, motorists should be extra alert for bicyclists because they are often not as easy to see as other vehicles. In addition they may ride unpredictably, or not have the knowledge or skills to ride in traffic. You will see a wide range of riding ability among bicyclists. Drivers should be alert for the following:

• Bicyclists swerving into the travel lane. Although bicyclists are required to ride as near to the right-hand edge of the roadway as practicable, there are exceptions when the bicyclist moves into the lane. These include preparing to make a left turn, passing another bicycle or avoiding an obstacle in the edge of the road. Bicyclists may legally ride on the left-hand edge of a one-way road.

• Bicyclists riding the wrong way. Although it is illegal to ride against traffic, many inexperienced bicyclists ride this way at times. This behavior leads to approximately 25% of all bicycle-car crashes. Drivers should be on the lookout for this behavior especially when turning.

• Exercise care when passing a bicyclist. Motorists should maintain at least 3 feet of space between the bicyclist and their vehicle until they have safely passed. Also, the bicyclist may be moving faster than you think. A significant number of crashes occur when a motorist passes a bicyclist, and immediately slows down and turns right, without leaving enough space for the bicyclist.

• Remain clear of bike lanes, especially when making a right turn at an intersection. Look for and yield to bicyclists when crossing bike lanes. If you plan to make an immediate right turn, it is better not to pass the bicyclist. Train yourself to look for overtaking bicyclists every time you make a right turn even when you think there is no bicyclist around.

• Look before you open your car door. It is a traffic violation to open a car door unexpectedly so as to create a hazard for moving traffic, including bicyclists.

• Treat bicyclists with aloha. Each bicycle on the road means one less car on the road, that much less pollution and potentially one more open parking space at your destination.

BICYCLISTS

Like motorists, bicyclists are required to obey all traffic signs, signals and other traffic regulations. It is the law, but it also goes a long way in gaining respect for bicyclists and showing that they belong on the road. In addition bicyclists should be aware of the following:

Traffic Regulations

• Always ride with traffic, even if you are riding a short distance. Motorists are not looking for fast moving bicyclists coming from the “wrong” direction. When making a right turn, it is not uncommon both for motorists and bicyclists to be so preoccupied with searching for traffic coming from the left that they forget to check for pedestrians coming from their right.
• When travelling slower than the normal speed of traffic, ride as close to the right edge as practicable. On one-way roads, it is legal to ride on the left edge.
• Bicyclists may move into the travelway when making a left turn, avoiding hazards in the roadway, moving the same speed as traffic or if it is too narrow for a bicycle and motor vehicle to safely share a lane.
• On the roadway, bicyclists must ride single file. They may ride two abreast on a bicycle lane or path if it is wide enough not to impede traffic.
• Obey all traffic signs and signals. Bicyclists caught violating traffic laws are subject to the same penalties as drivers.
• Follow lane markings. Move out of a right-turn-only lane if you are going straight through.
• If you ride at night you must have a headlight and rear reflector. A rear light and pedal reflectors are recommended, as well as light-colored clothing.
• Don’t carry passengers unless the bicycle is equipped to do so.
• Bicycles are not allowed to ride on the sidewalk in business districts. In other areas, bicyclists may ride on the sidewalks provided they stay at 10 MPH or less and always yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

Safety Tips
• Wear a bicycle helmet every time you ride. Although you may not be legally required to wear a helmet, it is a good idea. You don’t have to be going fast or far to risk serious head injuries.
• Be predictable. Don’t do anything that would surprise drivers, such as swerve in and out of parked cars or traffic.
• Look behind you, and make sure it is clear, before making a left turn or moving into the travelway. Also, let motorists know what you are doing by using proper hand signals for turning and stopping.
• Don’t ride too close to parked cars. Leave at least 3 feet so that if the driver suddenly opens the door you won’t be hit. Also be alert for cars that may be pulling out into the road.
• Don’t wear headphones when riding. You need to hear the traffic around you and be alert to what is going on. This includes watching the road for potholes, broken pavement and slippery surfaces.
• Make sure your bicycle is safe. Before you ride make sure the brakes work, the seat and handlebars are tight and the tires are properly inflated and in good shape.
• Be visible. Wear bright-colored clothes when you ride. Do not assume that drivers see you, even if you make eye contact. Elicit a response from the driver, so you are sure that you are seen.
• Choose the best way to turn left. Experienced bicyclists will make a left turn like a motor vehicle: signal, move into the center of the lane turning left when it is safe to do so and complete the turn. Others may opt to cross like a pedestrian: ride to the crosswalk, walk their bicycle across the intersection, continue riding from there.
• Don’t pass vehicles on the right. Drivers may not expect or see you when you ride pass them on the right. When stopped in traffic, it is safer and more courteous to take your place in line.