

Road Facts

Road Rules for Driving in Work Zones

Roadway workers and motorists often face dangerous situations and hazards in work zones. According to workzonesafety.org, there were 609 work zone fatalities (workers and motorists) nationwide in 2012, six of which were in West Virginia. The occupational injury rate for roadway workers is eight times that of all workers and three times that of other construction workers.

Following the tips listed below can help keep you, other motorists, and roadway workers safer.

- Pay attention to work zone signs, and always obey the directions of the road crew flagger personnel.
- Stay alert! Eliminate distractions, such as cell phones and changing the radio station.
- Allow enough time to drive safely through the work zone, or choose an alternate route. (Use the internet, radio, television, 511 system, etc., to get traffic information before your trip.)
- Be patient and stay calm.
- Slow down when approaching a work zone, and always obey posted speed limits.
- Stay alert . Expect the unexpected!
- Watch out for road workers, and keep a safe distance from them and their equipment.
- Do not change lanes unless directed to do so.
- Turn on headlights, even during the day, and be especially alert at night.
- Allow for plenty of space between you and the car in front of you. Do not tailgate!
- Be ready for lane shifts and merge when instructed to do so.
- Do not pass on the shoulder.

