

## TITLE NINE - Pedestrians, Bicycles and Motorcycles

Chap. 371. Pedestrians.

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## CHAPTER 371

## Pedestrians

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## CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law

Pedestrian defined - see TRAF. 301.22

Pedestrians prohibited on freeways - see TRAF. 303.06

Obedience to traffic control devices - see TRAF. 313.01, 313.03

Pedestrian control signals - see TRAF. 313.05

## 371.01 RIGHT OF WAY IN CROSSWALK.

(a) When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(b) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(c) Subsection (a) hereof does not apply under the conditions stated in Section 371.03(b).

(d) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle. (ORC 4511.46)

#### 371.02 RIGHT OF WAY OF BLIND PERSON.

(a) As used in this section "blind person" or "blind pedestrian" means a person having not more than 20/200 visual acuity in the better eye with correcting lenses or visual acuity greater than 20/200 but with a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees.

The driver of every vehicle shall yield the right of way to every blind pedestrian guided by a guide dog, or carrying a cane which is predominately white or metallic in color, with or without a red tip.

(b) No person, other than a blind person, while on any public highway, street, alley or other public thoroughfare shall carry a white or metallic cane, with or without a red tip. (ORC 4511.47)

#### 371.03 CROSSING ROADWAY OUTSIDE CROSSWALK; DIAGONAL CROSSINGS AT INTERSECTIONS.

(a) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(b) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right of way to all traffic upon the roadway.

(c) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic control signals are in operation, pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.

(d) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by official traffic control devices; and, when authorized to cross diagonally, pedestrians shall cross only in accordance with the official traffic control devices pertaining to such crossing movements.

(e) This section does not relieve the operator of a vehicle from exercising due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway.  
(ORC 4511.48)

#### 371.04 MOVING UPON RIGHT HALF OF CROSSWALK.

Pedestrians shall move, whenever practicable, upon the right half of crosswalks.  
(ORC 4511.49)

371.05 WALKING ALONG HIGHWAYS.

(a) Where a sidewalk is provided and its use is practicable, no pedestrian shall walk along and upon an adjacent roadway.

(b) Where a sidewalk is not available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk only on a shoulder, as far as practicable from the edge of the roadway.

(c) Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway, and, if on a two-way roadway, shall walk only on the left side of the roadway.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in Sections 313.03 and 371.01, any pedestrian upon a roadway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway.  
(ORC 4511.50)

371.06 USE OF HIGHWAY FOR SOLICITING; RIDING ON OUTSIDE OF VEHICLES.

(a) No person while on a roadway outside a safety zone shall solicit a ride from the driver of any vehicle.

(b) No person shall stand on a highway for the purpose of soliciting employment, business or contributions from the occupant of any vehicle.

(c) No person shall hang onto, or ride on the outside of any motor vehicle while it is moving upon a roadway, except mechanics or test engineers making repairs or adjustments.

(d) No operator shall knowingly permit any person to hang onto, or ride on the outside of any motor vehicle while it is moving upon a roadway, except mechanics or test engineers making repairs or adjustments. (ORC 4511.51)

(e) No person shall leave or enter a vehicle which is in motion except in an emergency necessitating such action.

371.07 RIGHT OF WAY ON SIDEWALK.

The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian on a sidewalk.  
(ORC 4511.441)

371.08 YIELDING TO PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE.

(a) Upon the immediate approach of a public safety vehicle as stated in Section 331.21, every pedestrian shall yield the right of way to the public safety vehicle.

(b) This section shall not relieve the driver of a public safety vehicle from the duty to exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian.  
(ORC 4511.452)

371.09 WALKING ON HIGHWAY WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE.

A pedestrian who is under the influence of alcohol or any drug of abuse, or any combination thereof, to a degree which renders himself a hazard shall not walk or be upon a highway. (ORC 4511.481)

371.10 ON BRIDGES OR RAILROAD CROSSINGS.

(a) No pedestrian shall enter or remain upon any bridge or approach thereto beyond the bridge signal, gate or barrier after a bridge operation signal indication has been given.

(b) No pedestrian shall pass through, around, over or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad grade crossing or bridge while the gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed. (ORC 4511.511)

371.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 303.99 for misdemeanor classifications and penalties.)