



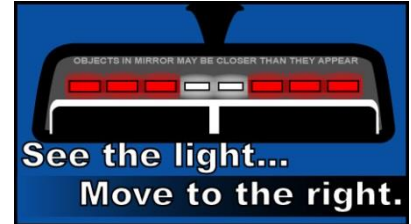
Approaching Emergency Vehicles

Watch for Emergency Vehicles

Every day, police fire and ambulance vehicles respond to urgent calls. Precious time lost getting there could mean the difference between life and death. You'd be surprised how many people don't know what to do when an emergency vehicle is approaching.

When you hear sirens and see flashing lights, **pull to the right and stop!**

How drivers react to emergency vehicles is a huge problem, and emergency response times are significantly increased when drivers fail to yield in these situations.



Getting out of the way is something we should do quickly and safely.

Follow these steps:

If an emergency vehicle **approaches from behind**, check traffic around you and pick a safe path, change lanes, **moving to the right** side of the street **and stop safely**--then wait for the emergency vehicles to pass.

If you are **stopped at a red light** it is legal to pull ahead to **clear a path**, as long as it's safe to do so. Even if you have a green light, you must yield the right of way when an emergency vehicle is trying to cross the intersection.

For **oncoming** emergency vehicles, **pull to the right and stop**.

When **approaching a stationary emergency vehicle** on a roadway, you must slow down and pass with caution; pass only if safe to do so; move over one lane if safe to do so. Follow any directions or instructions from emergency personnel on scene.

For a victim, the time it takes for an emergency vehicle to get to the scene of an accident can make the difference between life and death. So when you see the lights and hear the sirens, pull to the right--it's easy to remember and it could save someone's life.

Additional:

Manitoba Law:

In **Manitoba** , section 109.1 of Manitoba's Highway Traffic Act (HTA) addresses driver requirements when approaching and passing stopped emergency vehicles with their emergency lights activated.

Drivers are required to slow down, be cautious, and pass only when safe to do so. It also requires drivers to move out of the lane that the emergency vehicle is stopped in and, in the case multilane highways, move into a lane that is not adjacent to the stopped vehicle.

These offences carry a stiff monetary fine and two demerit points on the driver's record. Judges also have the option of imposing a fine up to a maximum of \$2000 as well as a driver's license suspension of up to one year on conviction.

Effective Sept. 12, 2014 drivers on either side of an undivided highway who pass emergency vehicles and other vehicles that are stopped with their beacons flashing will be required to slow down to the following maximum speeds: **40 km/h** on highways with posted maximum speed limits below 80 km/h and **60 km/h** on highways with posted maximum speed limits of 80 km/h or more.