

# Arlington Heights Police Department

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



### 625 ILCS 5/11-1001 – Pedestrian obedience to traffic control devices:

- ❗ A pedestrian shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device specifically applicable to him, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

### 625 ILCS 5/11-1002 – Pedestrians' right-of-way at crosswalks:

- ❗ When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall stop and yield the right-of-way 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. *The presence of a pedestrian in a crosswalk does not automatically require all vehicles to stop.*
- ❗ **No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a moving vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.**

**REMEMBER:** Prior to July 2010, the law required drivers to yield and stop “only when necessary”. Now it requires drivers to come to a complete **STOP** for pedestrians in all crosswalks – even those without stop signs or traffic lights.

### 625 ILCS 5/11-1003 – Crossing at other than crosswalks:

- ❗ 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.

**REMEMBER:** An unmarked crosswalk is still a crosswalk. If there is a sidewalk on one side of the roadway, the lines (imaginary or not) that cross to the other side make up the crosswalk. It is still a crosswalk if there is a sidewalk on only one side of the roadway.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2008 there were **4,378** pedestrians killed in traffic crashes in the United States, and another **69,000** pedestrians were injured. This averages to **one injury every 8 minutes**. Most pedestrian and bicyclist deaths occur in urban areas, non-intersection locations and at night.

### What can a pedestrian do to stay safe?

- **BE CAREFUL – PAY ATTENTION**
- Cross at the designated crosswalks.
- Look left, right and then left again – keep your head up and watch as you cross.
- Walk – Do not run.
- Carry a flashlight or wear reflective clothing at night.
- It is safer to walk on the sidewalk – if you must walk on the street or roadway shoulder then face traffic.