

**POULSBO POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TIPS

Poulsbo, WA: The City of Poulsbo is proud to be a city that is active with pedestrians, joggers, cyclists and other outdoor enthusiasts. Whether you are walking on Front Street, taking your children to school, or enjoying one of the many beautiful trails in the city, we want you to be safe. With the winter months approaching and less hours of daylight, here are a few tips on pedestrian safety from the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Poulsbo Police Department:

See and Be Seen

- Wear brightly colored and/or reflective clothing, especially at night or in dimly lit areas.
- Make eye contact with drivers in vehicles to ensure they see you before you cross the street.
- Walk in well-lit areas, especially when crossing the street. Also, use a flashlight when walking during hours of darkness.

Avoid Distractions

- Mobile phones can be a distraction to pedestrian safety. Try to avoid using any handheld device, especially when crossing the roadway.
- Your ears can tell you a lot about what is happening around you. Avoid using headphones. This is especially important in parking lots or when crossing the roadway.

Safety First

- Know and follow all traffic rules, signs, and signals. This will help increase your safety.
- Never assume a driver will give you the right of way. Make every effort to make eye contact with the driver of a stopped or approaching vehicle, prior to entering the roadway.

Be as Safe as Possible

- Use crosswalks when crossing the street. If there is not a crosswalk available, cross in a well-lit area and wait for a long enough gap in traffic to make it safely across the street.
- Stay on sidewalks whenever possible. If a sidewalk is not available, be sure to walk facing traffic. This will help increase your visibility.

These simple tips will help keep you safe. If you have any further questions, please visit: <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/travel/commute-choices/walk/pedestrian-safety> or call the Poulsbo Police Department at (360) 779-3113.