



Safety Tips

A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.



Proper Lane Changing

One of our top five causes of vehicle accidents is sideswiping, due to improper lane changes. These types of accidents are particularly dangerous because they involve at least two moving vehicles, and often at highway speeds. Sideswiping accidents often involve multiple vehicles because of swerving to avoid an accident or bouncing off of another vehicle and going into another lane of traffic.

Typical causes of sideswiping accidents include, but are not limited to:

- Improper side view mirror positioning (blind spots)
- Failing to signal
- Assuming that signaling gives you the right of way
- Speeding
- Distractions (doing other tasks such as eating, drinking, cell phone use, map reading, etc.)
- Road rage
- Turning from the wrong lane
- Others invading into your lane under the above circumstances

To reduce the potential of a sideswipe accident, you should always drive defensively and practice the following driving habits:

- Adjust your outside mirrors to eliminate the blind spots beside your vehicle
- ALWAYS SIGNAL BEFORE CHANGING LANES
- Remember, signaling does not give you the right-of-way
- Look carefully before beginning a lane change
- If possible, adjust your speed to correspond to the speed of traffic in the lane you are changing to before changing lanes
- Do not change lanes unless there is enough space between the other vehicles to accommodate your vehicle

**ALWAYS TREAT THE OTHER DRIVERS AS THOUGH THEY ARE EITHER
YOUR CUSTOMERS OR POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS!**