



Safety Tips

A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.

Handling Your Vehicle

As a pest control technician, you spend a great deal of time behind the wheel of your work vehicle. Your constant exposure to traffic makes developing your driving skills a top priority. This safety tip outlines a few examples of traffic maneuvers you use every day that tend to increase the chances of having an accident.

Changing lanes

- ◆ When preparing to change lanes, mirror check to see if there's a safe gap in traffic.
- ◆ Shoulder check before changing lanes. You shouldn't turn your head so far around that you can't see traffic ahead with your peripheral vision. Instead, think of it as a "shoulder glance".
- ◆ Make sure you have enough space then smoothly move to the other lane, looking ahead in the direction you want to go. Match your speed with the vehicle ahead of you and keep a 2-4 second distance.

Yielding the right-of-way

- ◆ If two or more vehicles arrive at the same location at the same time, someone has to go first. We say that person has the right-of-way.
- ◆ The rules of right-of-way are simple. When you arrive at a four-way stop at the same time as another driver, yield to the car on your right.
- ◆ When merging into traffic from an on-ramp, the traffic flow on the main highway has the right-of-way and you should adjust your place in the traffic flow accordingly.

Using your signals

- ◆ Any time you slow down or change direction; you must give advance notice to the drivers around you. Communicate your intentions.
- ◆ Signal when preparing to: change lanes, stop, park, or move to or away from the side of the road.
- ◆ Signal well in advance to give others plenty of warning

