

Avoiding Roadway Hazards of Daylight Saving Time

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Its that time of year again when we “fall back”. The end of Day Light Savings means we will have fewer daylight hours and reduced visibility for all road users across the province. In Toronto and York region, pedestrian collisions increase by more than 30 per cent during the evening commute hours from November to March.

Many municipalities have campaigns to draw awareness to this subject to ensure that people are safe, both in and out of vehicles. The City of Toronto’s Vision Zero campaign aims to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries. A commendable goal and definitely something we can all attach ourselves to as road users while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

Here at Seneca, Security has the same vision. A safe campus where everyone can work and study in a problem-free environment. Your safety starts from the moment you enter campus, till you are back home safe in bed. Here are some of our services explained:

- **Security Escorts:** Aren’t just for when you have experienced an incident. Students and employees can request to be escorted to their vehicles or the bus stop by Campus Security before they come to campus, while on campus and when leaving for the day. Our bright yellow jackets reflect light to ensure you are seen when walking outside with the reduce day light.
- **Emergency Help Phone:** See an accident? Require assistance due to car trouble? Blue emergency phones are strategically placed in and around the campus dedicated to connecting users to Campus Security.
- **SenecaSAFE:** Use the SenecaSAFE app to communicate with Security using the *MobileBlueLight*. Community members can send their location to Security Service anywhere to have their location monitored in real time.
- **Friend Walk** – send a friend or family member a private message with your location for them to track your destination to ensure you get to your end location safely. Send an emergency notification to contact Security, Police or Emergency Medical Services.

When visibility is reduced due to the seasonal weather, people and objects on the road are harder to see. **Drivers** should be aware of:

- When driving, please slow down and turn slowly. Always stay alert.

- Make sure vehicle headlights and signal lights are functioning properly.
- Obey speed limits and approach all crosswalks, intersections and transit stops with caution.
- Give yourself plenty of time wherever you're going and plan your route in advance. Use public transit when possible.

Pedestrians should practice the following safety tips when outside:

- Wear reflective clothing and use items with reflect material or use a flashlight at night. (dog leashes, items on your bag/purse, etc.)
- Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
- Keep alert at all times; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road.
- Whenever possible, cross streets at crosswalks or intersections, where drivers expect pedestrians. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
- Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach to make sure you are seen.

Haven't got the Seneca SAFE app yet? Download it [here](#) and learn how to keep SAFE!

Stay safe and enjoy the outdoors. Winter is coming!