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Motorists Reminded of Bus Safety

Harrisonburg, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) and Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT) reminds motorists of the importance of bus safety with the start of school next week.

With public schools and colleges gearing up for their first day of school next week, motorists and residents are reminded to be vigilant and drive slow near stopped buses, bus stops, and schools. Motorists should also be watching for more pedestrians and bicyclists commuting from their neighborhoods to school.

“We want to ensure the safety of our passengers of all ages,” explained Reggie Smith, director of HDPT. “All motorists should be mindful of our school buses and transit buses picking up and dropping off students.”

HPD will be proactively monitoring the school bus routes to watch for vehicles not stopping for buses.

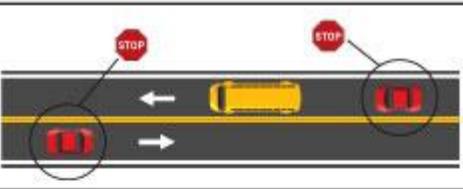
It is required by law for all motorists to stop their vehicles when approaching from any direction, any school bus that is stopped on any highway, private road or school driveway for the purpose of taking on or letting off children. The driver of the vehicle does not need to stop **only** when the school bus is stopped in the opposite lane of travel with a divided highway or physical barrier in between.

In Harrisonburg, the morning school bus routes run from 6:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. and the afternoon routes run from 2:30 p.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m.

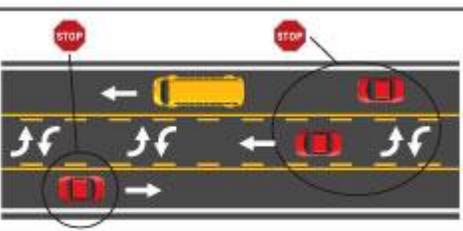
Additional information about HDPT can be found at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/HDPT. Be sure to follow both [HDPT](#) and [HPD](#) on their social media sites for changes to bus routes or other departmental news.

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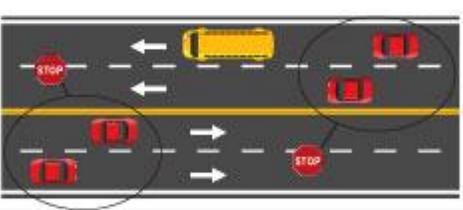
1 Two-lane roadway:
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



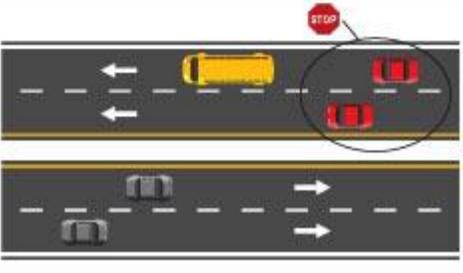
2 Two-lane roadway with a center turning lane:
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



3 Four-lane roadway without a median separation:
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



4 Divided highway of four lanes or more with a median separation:
When school bus stops for passengers, only traffic following the bus must stop.



The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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