



City of Garfield

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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CHIEF OF POLICE
JOSEPH P. DELANEY IV

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin another school year, the safety of our students, both in and outside of school, remains our highest priority. The City of Garfield is a densely populated community, with approximately 33,000 residents living within a two-square-mile area. With more children walking, biking, and using e-bikes to travel to and from school, it is important that we remind everyone of safe practices to ensure our students arrive and return home safely each day. The Garfield Police Department is committed to ensuring safe practices throughout our city; however, the foundation of educating our students on safety begins at home with parents and guardians.

Pedestrian Safety

- Always use sidewalks and crosswalks when available. Obey crossing guards and traffic signals.
- Look both ways before crossing the street and make eye contact with drivers before crossing.
- Use extra caution at T-intersections, as vehicles may turn left or right unexpectedly.
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones or headphones when walking near traffic.

Bicycle/E-Bike/Scooter Safety

- Riders should wear a properly fitted helmet. Be mindful of speed and always ride defensively.
- Riders must follow the same traffic rules, including stopping at stop signs and red lights.
- Make sure brakes, tires, and lights are in good working condition.
- Riders should not utilize sidewalks; riders must follow the rules of the road.
- Avoid carrying passengers unless the bicycle/e-bike/scooter is specifically designed to do so.

Driver Safety

- Always be alert in areas with heavy pedestrian or bicycle traffic and yield to pedestrians in crosswalk.
- Expect the unexpected, as children and cyclists may suddenly enter the roadway.
- Look for pedestrians when turning left or right, even if you have a green light.
- Please park legally at the curb for drop-off and pick-up and do not double park.

By working together, we can ensure that all students travel to and from school safely.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our community safe.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Delaney", written over a white background.

Chief Joseph P. Delaney IV
Garfield Police Department

WALK SAFELY

Safe Walking Tips for Pedestrians



Pedestrians have the right of way to cross in crosswalks – marked and unmarked – but should always be aware of their surroundings and look both ways before crossing the street.



Always cross in the crosswalk or at corners when there is no crosswalk. Don't walk between parked cars – motorists may not see you entering the roadway.



Remain distraction free and be in tune to the traffic scene when entering and while in the roadway.



If crossing in other locations, always yield the right of way to vehicles. Failure to obey the law can carry fines.

A few reminders for pedestrians:



- Walk facing traffic
- Wear reflective clothing and be visible to motorists
- Stay alert and walk sober



Funded by the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety

DRIVE SAFELY

Safe Driving Tips for Motorists



Pedestrians in crosswalks – both marked & unmarked – have the right of way to cross the roadway.



Motorists must give pedestrians clearance of a full lane of traffic before proceeding.



Failure to stop or yield for pedestrians can carry fines and/or license penalties, insurance surcharges and community service.



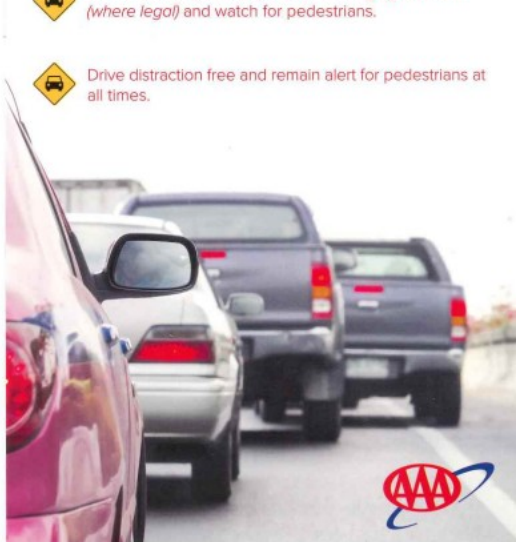
Do not park in or otherwise block crosswalks. Be sure to give proper clearance at corners and intersections.



Come to a complete stop before turning right on red (*where legal*) and watch for pedestrians.



Drive distraction free and remain alert for pedestrians at all times.





Basic Safety Tips for Electric Device Users

- **Wear a helmet.** Helmets are good for cyclists of all ages.
- **Stay visible.** Wear brightly colored clothing for daytime riding. At night, use reflective materials and lights (front white light + rear red light on e-bikes).
- **Use your bell or horn.** A warning device alerts drivers, pedestrians, and other cyclists to your presence.
- **Ride on the right side** and in a straight, single line. Obey traffic signs and signals.
- **Look, signal, and look again** before changing lanes or turning. Establish eye contact with drivers.
- **Don't wear earphones.** You may wear one earbud, but keeping your ears clear is safer.
- **Ride predictably and defensively.** Do not weave in and out of traffic and slow down in questionable situations.
- **Watch out for pedestrians** or other path users and road hazards (i.e., car doors, wet pavement, objects in the path).
- **Keep your device maintained regularly.** Inflate tires properly and follow the manufacturer's guidelines.
- **Learn local laws**, where e-devices are allowed, and speed limits or regulations.
- **Always ride lawfully and responsibly.**



New Jersey's E-Bike & E-Scooter Law

VEHICLE TYPES	PROPULSION METHOD	POWER SOURCE	MAX ASSISTED SPEED (MPH)	LICENSE & REGISTRATION	HELMET	PARK ON THE SIDEWALK?	TAKE ON TRANSIT?
LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTER 	Kickstart and throttle	Electric	19mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes*
LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLE 	Pedal and/or throttle	Electric (<750W)	20mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes*
MOTORIZED BICYCLE 	Pedal and throttle	Gas or Electric (<50cc/<1.5BHP)	28mph	Required	Required	No	No

<http://njbikeped.org/new-law-legalized-e-bikes-and-e-scooters-in-new-jersey/>

* Restrictions may vary by agency. PATH and NJT restrict non-collapsible vehicles during peak travel times. Bus racks have limited availability and may not fit all bikes.

E-mobility devices make it easier to:

- Save on gas, parking, and rideshare costs.
- Access destinations without needing to walk or drive.
- Reduce carbon emissions.
- Make "first-mile" and "last-mile" connections for bus and train trips.
- Climb hills and keep up with traffic without getting sweaty.
- Help people with limitations due to age, physical fitness levels, or disabilities.

Low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters are regulated like bicycles. Drivers of low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters:

- Must ride in the same direction as traffic and obey all traffic lights, signs, and signals.
- Are advised to wear helmets to minimize potential head injury. Helmets are required in NJ for youth under age 17.
- Must park devices without blocking pedestrian and/or wheelchair access.
- Should not ride on sidewalks. Off-road trails generally do not allow motorized bicycles, but may allow e-bikes and e-scooters. Regulations vary by municipality and county. Check all local ordinances and policies. Ride slowly in areas with pedestrians.



RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy



NEW JERSEY Safe Routes



For more information, visit the NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center at njbikeped.org or the NJ Safe Routes Resource Center at saferroutesnj.org. 01.13.22