



Operation Lifesaver Presents:

In the Interest of Safety

It Happens Every Day...



TRAIN PUSHES CAR
HALF MILE, THREE
PEOPLE DIE.

Person Struck
and Killed While
Walking On Tracks.

Train Collides with
Truck at Crossing with
Multiple Tracks.

Any Time is Train Time



RAILROAD
CROSSING



As you approach a railroad crossing, always expect a train.

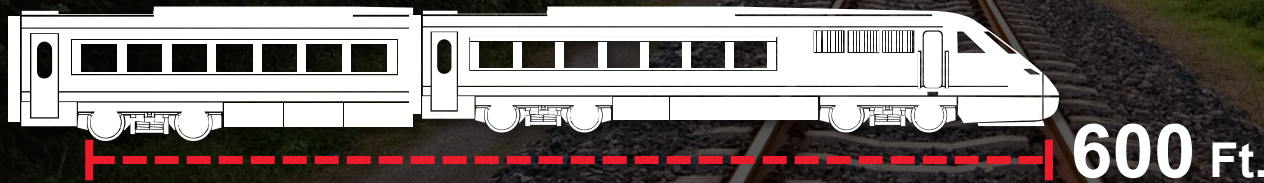
Freight trains do not run on a schedule. Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction.

Trains Can't Swerve



Trains don't have a steering wheel,
so they can't go right or left.

Approximate Stopping Distance



Stopping distance of the average freight train is a mile or more. That's **18 football fields.**



Trains can stop, but they can't stop quickly. When traveling at 55MPH

Weight Ratio

3,000 lbs.



12 oz.

**4,000 to 1
weight ratio**

12 Million lbs.



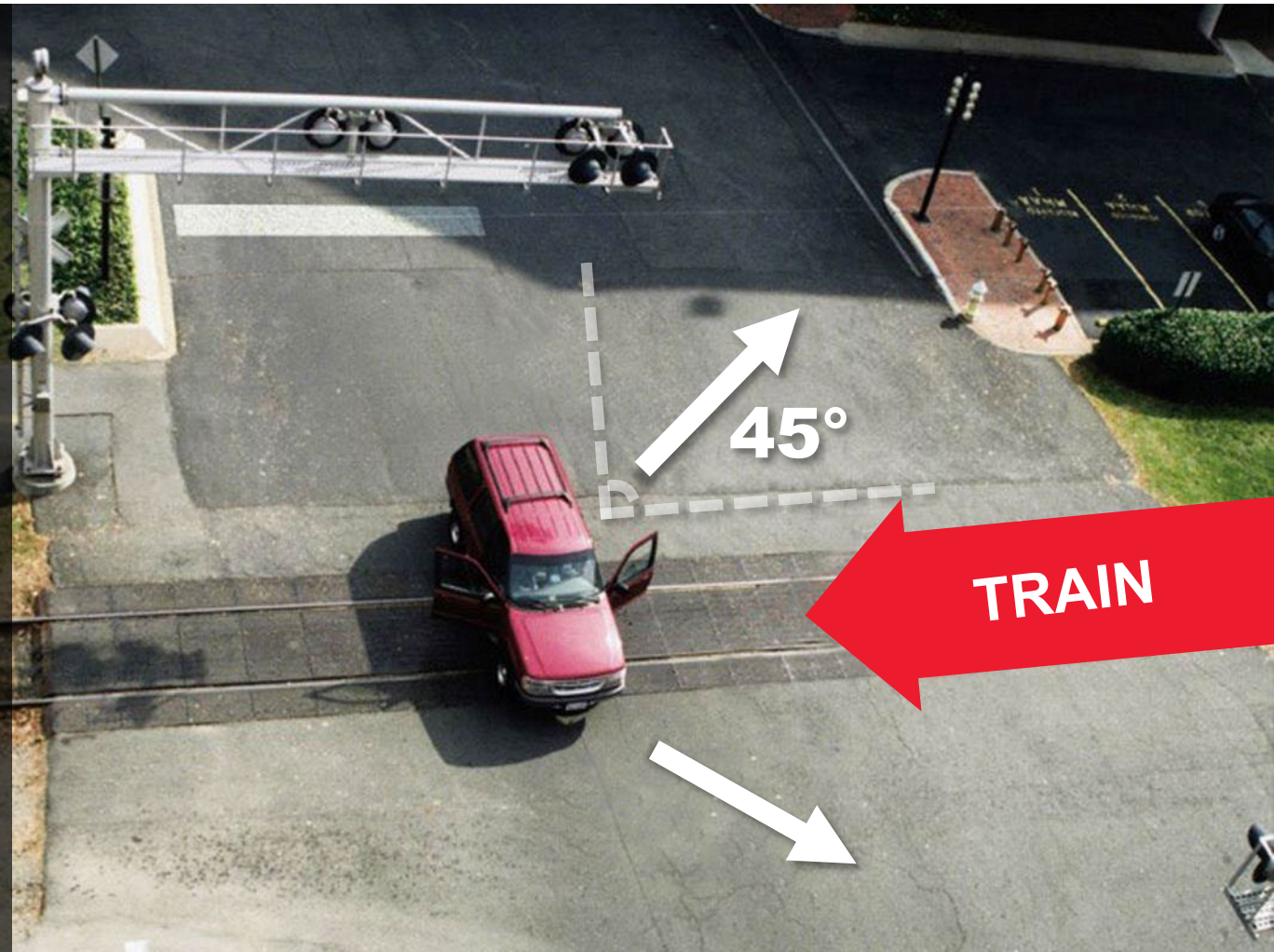
3,000 lbs.

A car crushing a can is the same as a train crushing a car.

What Will You Do if You Stall on the Tracks?



1. Get out!
2. Get away from the tracks, even if you do not see a train.
3. Locate the Emergency Notification System sign and call the number provided, telling them about the stalled vehicle.
4. If a train is approaching, run toward the train but away from the tracks at a 45 degree angle. If you run in the same direction a train is traveling, you could be injured by flying debris.



Emergency Notification System (ENS)



In case of emergency, look for this blue sign that shows an emergency phone number.

- Call the number and give the Department of Transportation (DOT) crossing number found on the sign to identify your location.
- This sign may be located on **the crossbuck post or signal post.**
- If you cannot locate the ENS sign, call 911 or the local police.



Approaching a Passive Crossing



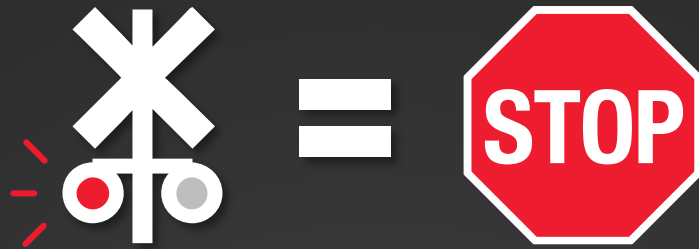
- You may see a round yellow Advance Warning sign that warns drivers that railroad tracks are ahead.
- Pavement markings R X R, may be near the Advance Warning sign.
- There is a **no passing zone within 100 feet** of the approach to a railroad crossing.

Passive Crossing



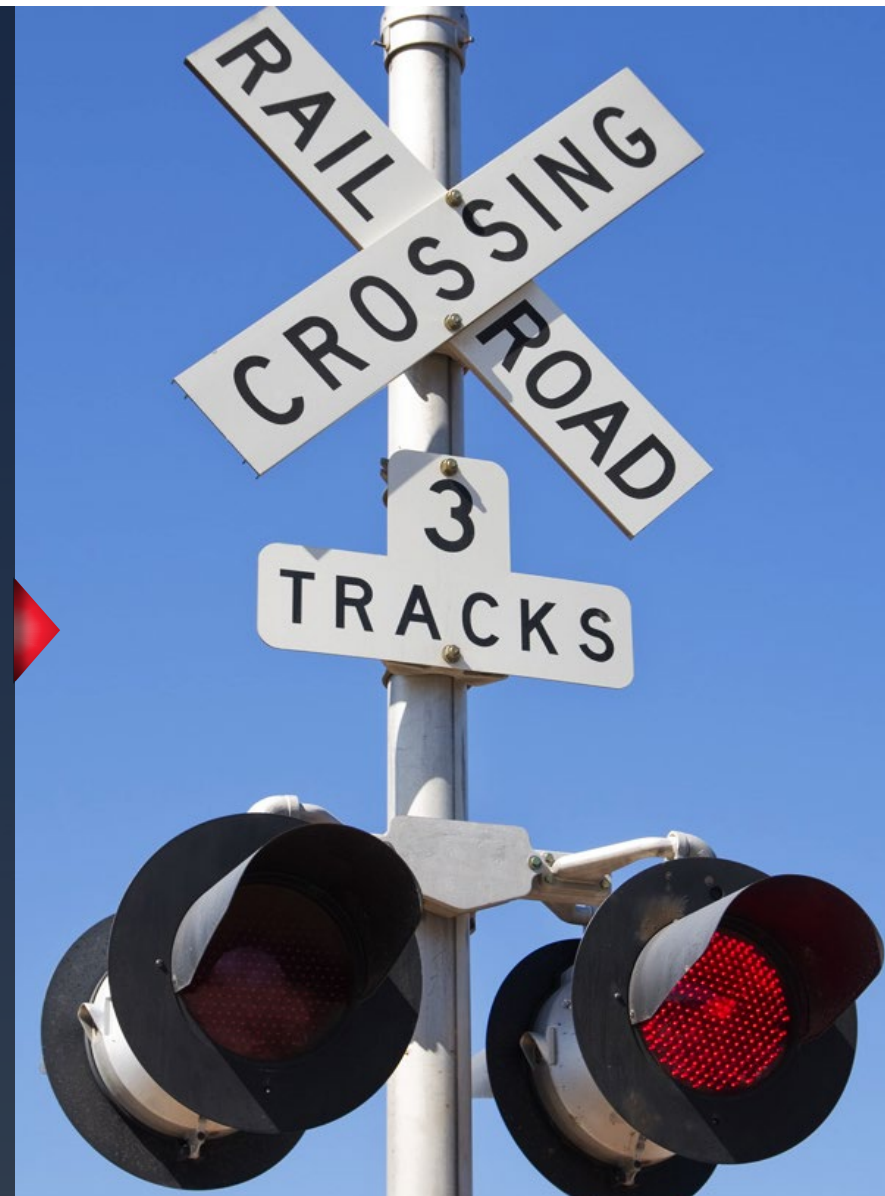
- A passive crossing does not have flashing lights or automatic gates.
- The crossbuck sign, required at all public railroad crossings, means to yield the right of way to the train.
- A painted line identifies the safe place to stop when a train is approaching. If there isn't a line, stop no closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet from the closest rail.

Active Crossing – Warning Devices



Flashing red lights warn of an approaching train and must be treated like a stop sign.

- At crossings with flashing lights and no gates, you must stop. Proceed only when it is safe to do so.
- Trains **always** have the right-of-way.



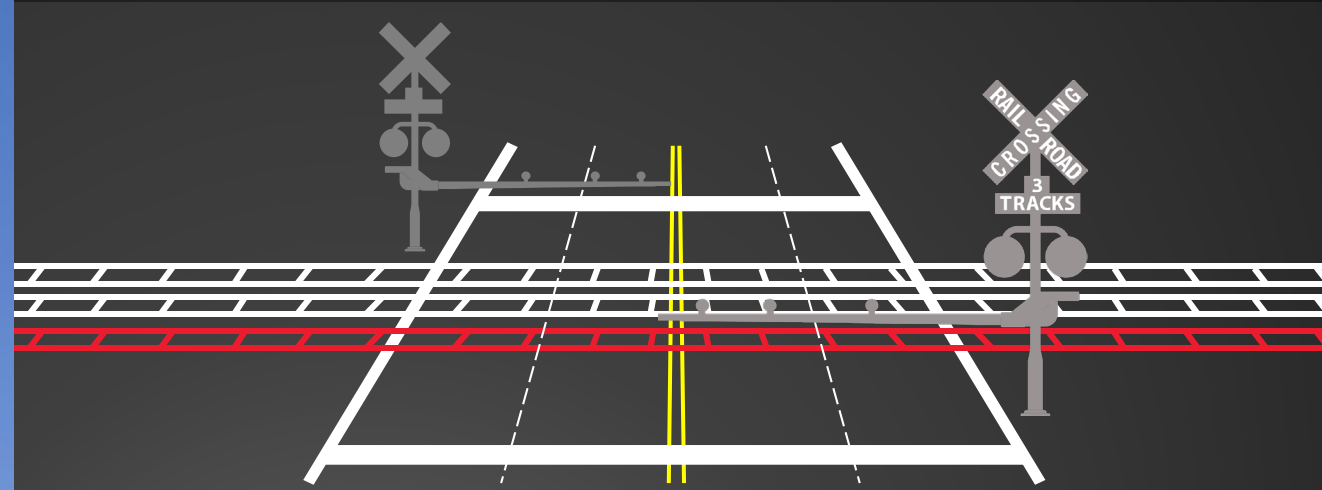
Driving Around the Gate

- Flashing lights with gates close the road temporarily when a train is approaching.
- Cross only when the gates are up completely and the lights have stopped flashing.
- Driving around lowered gates is dangerous and illegal.



Multiple Tracks

Multiple Tracks Mean Multiple Trains



Check for a multiple track sign, which informs the driver how many sets of tracks are at that crossing.

Always make sure all tracks are clear before crossing any track. If there is a train in the crossing, after that train clears, **make sure another train is not approaching on any other track from either direction.**

There May Not Always Be a Train Horn



Some communities have established Quiet Zones where train horns will not routinely sound.

Look for “No Train Horn” signs that should be attached to the Advance Warning Sign.

For more information on the Federal Train Horn Rule and Quiet Zones, visit www.fra.dot.gov.

Speed Misperception



Airplanes look like they are almost hanging in mid-air but their landing speed is **over 150 mph**. The effects of the optical illusion are the same with trains.



Because of their size, trains **appear** to be much further away and traveling much slower than their actual speed.

Three Don'ts



1 Don't pass
on the tracks



2 Don't shift gears
while crossing the tracks

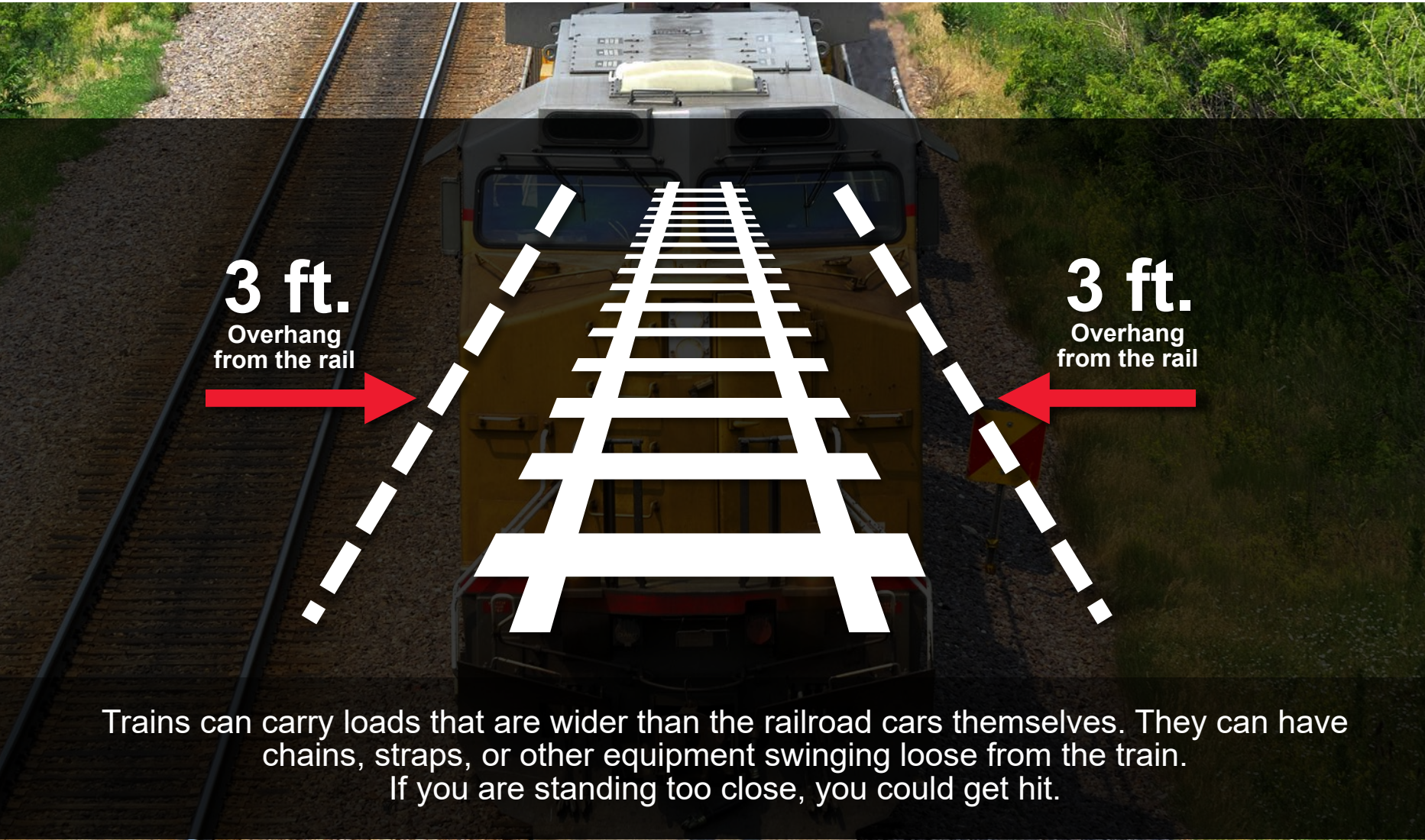


3 Don't stop
on the tracks
(it's illegal)



When you stop, make sure the **front and the back** of your vehicle are **15 feet** from the nearest rail.

Trains Overhang the Track



Trains can carry loads that are wider than the railroad cars themselves. They can have chains, straps, or other equipment swinging loose from the train. If you are standing too close, you could get hit.

Overdriving Your Headlights



Overdriving your headlights means driving **too fast to stop** in the distance illuminated by the headlights.



This can result in **collisions** when motorists run into the side of a train.



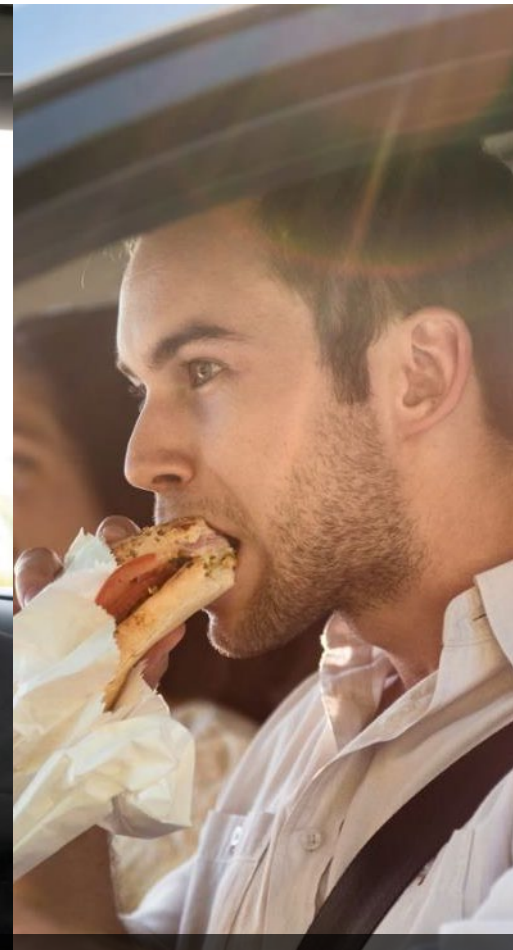
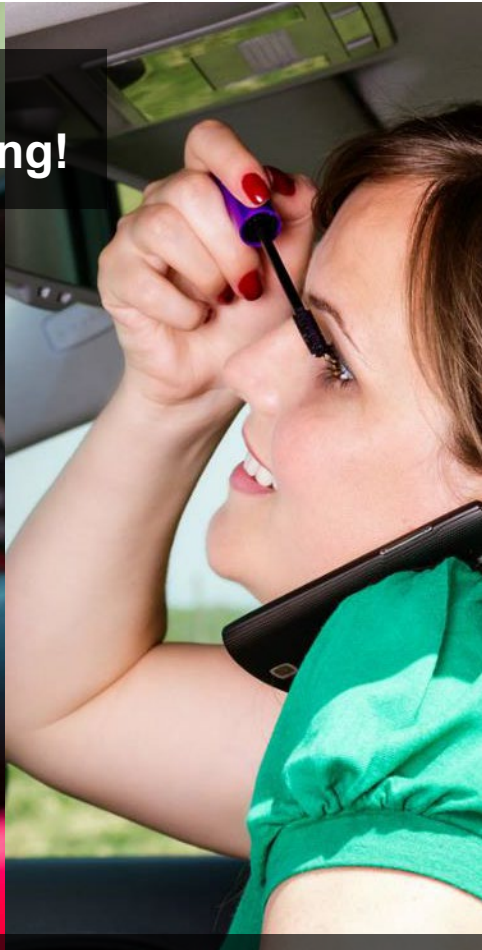
Watch for an Advance Warning Sign then slow down and **be prepared** to stop if a train is approaching.

Always expect a train!

Distractions



Don't text
while driving!



Multi-tasking behind the wheel can be dangerous and even deadly—this is especially true around train tracks.

Avoid driving when tired or after drinking alcohol or taking medications (prescriptions or over the counter) that can blur your vision, cause drowsiness, and **impair reaction time.**

When approaching railroad tracks, keep your **full attention on the road** and your surroundings.

Passenger Trains – The Platform

Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction, and can be very quiet.

- Obey all signs, announcements, and signals.
- Stand behind the painted or raised platform edge markings.
- Never go down onto tracks – they may be electrified. If you drop something, alert a station agent, police officer, or other company personnel.



Transit & Passenger Trains – Riding, Entering, and Exiting



Be careful getting on and off the train—there may be a gap or steps down to the ground.

- Hold on tight to poles or seats.
- Listen carefully to directions from the train operator or conductor.
- Hold children by the hand as the train moves into or out of the station.
- Follow signs letting you know where it is safe to cross the tracks—anywhere else is dangerous and illegal.



Light Rail and Streetcars

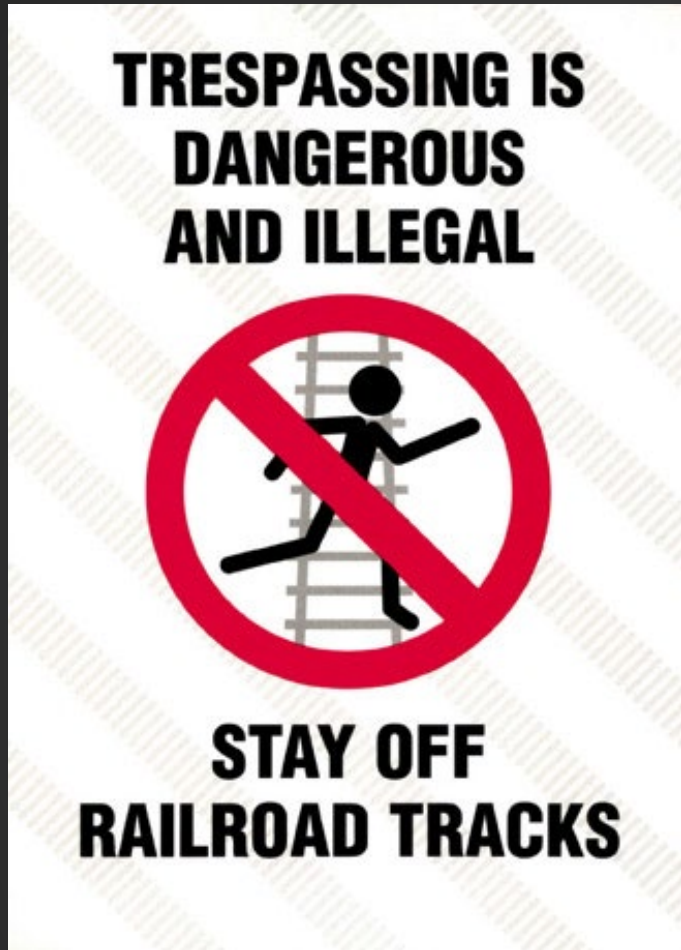
Some transit systems, like light rail and streetcars, run in the street, alongside cars, bicycles, and pedestrians.

When you are walking or biking around these systems:

- Cross light rail and streetcar tracks only at designated crossings, and obey all warnings, signals, lights, and signs.
- Do not walk or ride your bike along the tracks.
- When you cross the tracks on your bike, dismount and walk across at a 90-degree angle.
- Never run to catch the train or streetcar, or try to board when it's moving.
- Watch your step getting on and off the train or streetcar.



Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!®



Railroad property is private property.

Being on railroad tracks or property without permission is trespassing, even if a sign is not posted.

Taking a shortcut across the tracks can get you seriously injured or killed.

Trespassing

**Stay Off!
Stay Away!
Stay Alive!®**

- Recreational activities do not mix with railroad tracks—you are trespassing.
- Listening to music near railroad tracks may prevent you from hearing the train horn.
- Train crews are not expecting people on or near the tracks. You may not be able to hear a warning in time.



Where Do You Cross the Tracks?

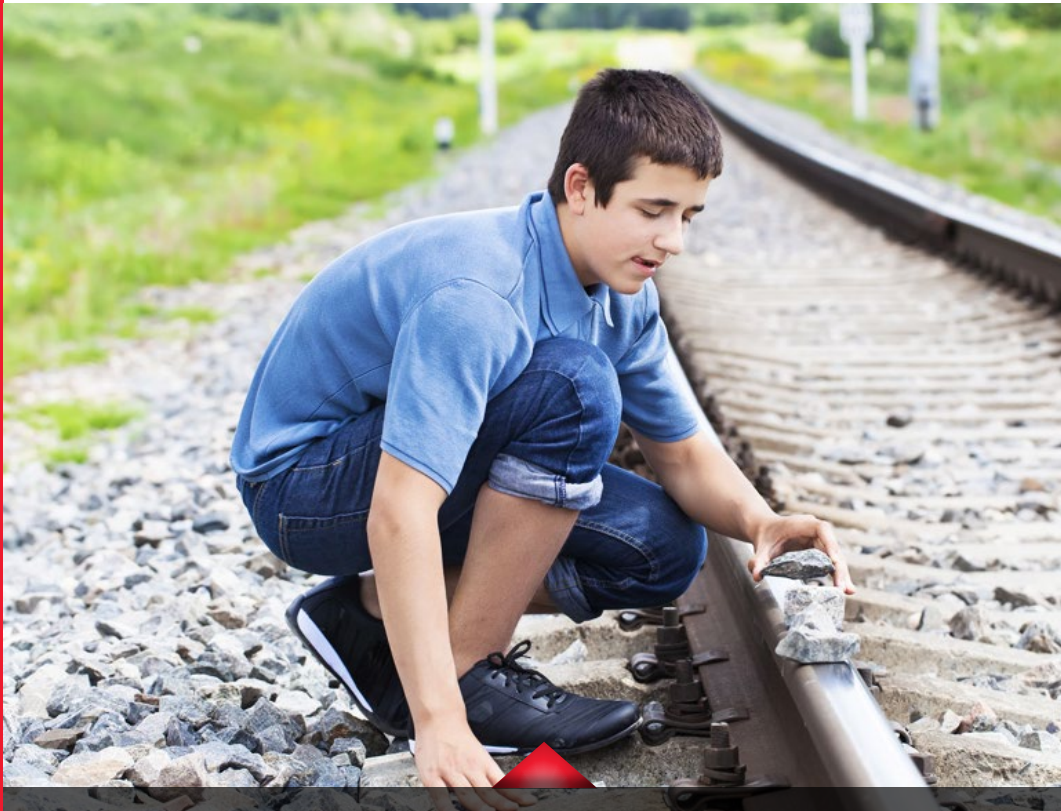


Pedestrians should cross tracks at a designated crossing, either where cars cross, or at a pedestrian overpass or underpass.



Use designated sidewalks when available.

Objects and Trains Do Not Mix



Placing objects on the rails is **illegal** and **potentially deadly**.



Throwing objects at trains is against the law. Any object thrown at a moving train can **bounce back** with **deadly force**.

Tunnels, Bridges, and Trestles



Railroad bridges, tunnels, and trestles are private property—**enter and you are trespassing.**

If you are trespassing on a bridge with a train approaching, you have two choices: **jump or get hit.** Tunnels, bridges, and trestles are only designed for trains.

Trains Can Move Without Warning



Playing On

Do not play on rail cars. When the train starts to move, the rail cars often jerk with enough force to knock you off.



Too Close

Don't stand too close to the tracks. Overhanging equipment can hit you causing serious injuries or death.



Under

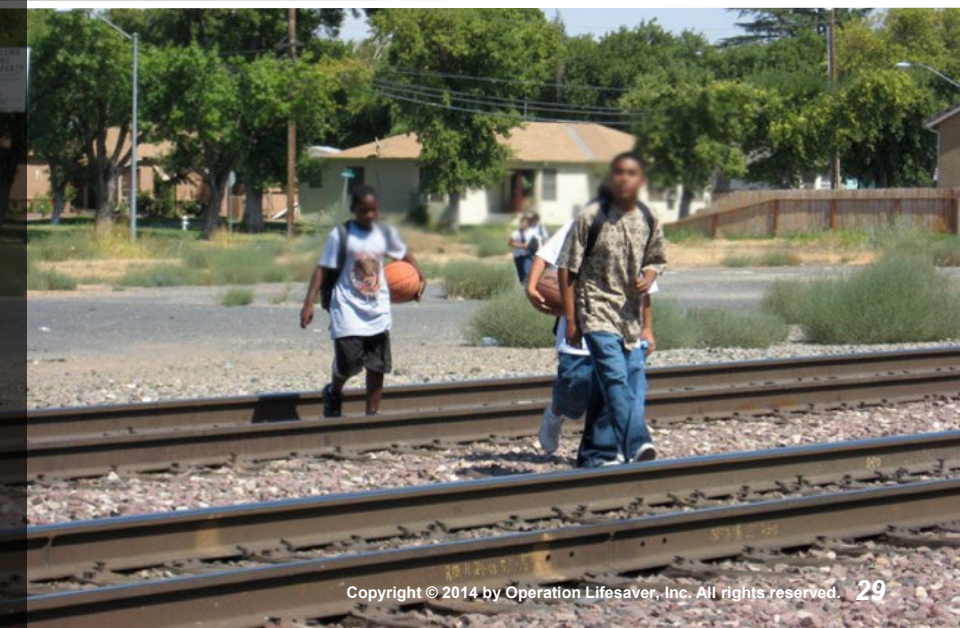
Don't crawl under rail cars. Trains move without warning. You can lose an arm, a leg, or even worse.

Do Not Walk on Tracks



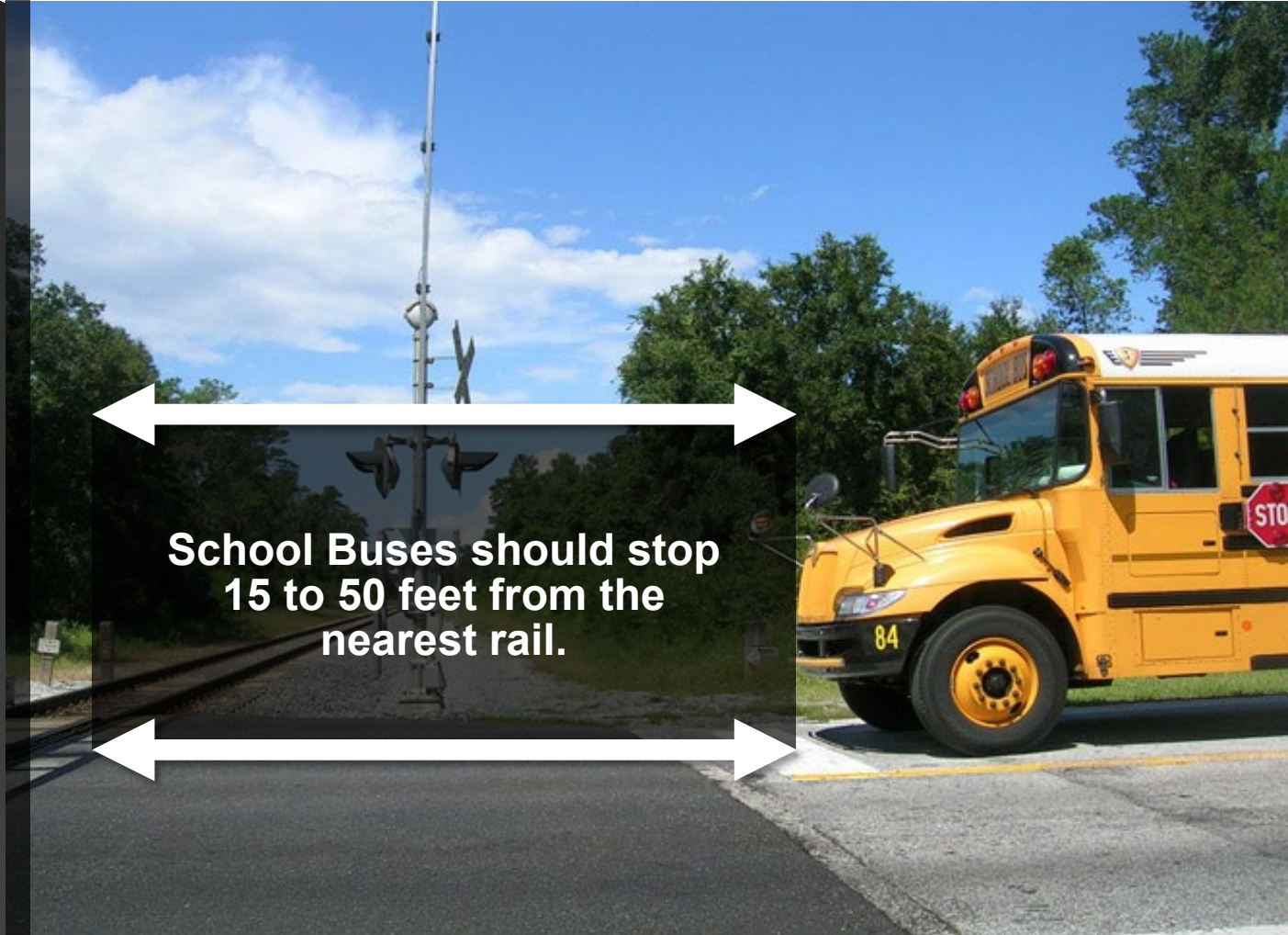
Walking on railroad tracks is dangerous and illegal.

- Many people believe they will always hear a train coming, but some trains are silent and difficult to hear.
- Engaging in conversation, speaking on a cell phone, and listening to music are all potentially deadly distractions.
- Trains can run on any track, at any time, from either direction.
- Walking, lying, or sitting on the tracks can cause injuries and even death.
- **Tracks are for trains, not for people—Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!**



School Buses

- Know the length of your bus so you can fully clear the track.
- After stopping, you can inch forward to see further down the track if necessary.
- Create an evacuation plan in case the bus stalls or is trapped on the tracks.
- You should know and follow the policies of your jurisdiction.



Hazardous Materials



Federal regulations require all trucks carrying hazardous material to stop at all railroad crossings.

- Drivers must ensure a train is not approaching and that they have sufficient time and space to make it across the tracks safely.
- Know the length of your vehicle.
- Don't stop with the front or back of your vehicle closer than 15 feet from the nearest rail.

Exempt Signs and Crossings



Certain vehicles are required to stop at all grade crossings unless there is an exempt sign posted. Refer to your local and state laws and company policies for additional information.

Hump Crossings

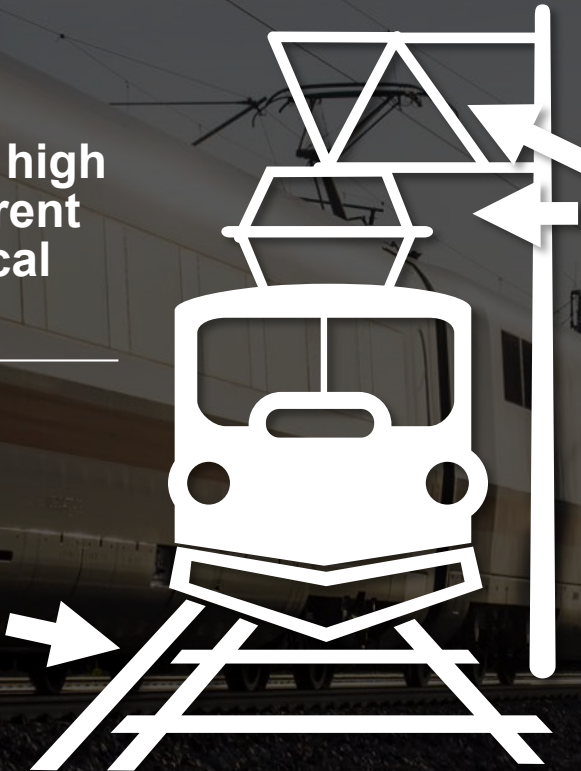
- Due to close clearance to the road, trucks and many trailers are prohibited from using these crossings.
- When you see this warning sign, find another way across the tracks.
- Be aware that crossings may not have this sign, so pay attention to the roadway at all times.



Electrification

The third rail carries high voltage of direct current and provides electrical power to the train.

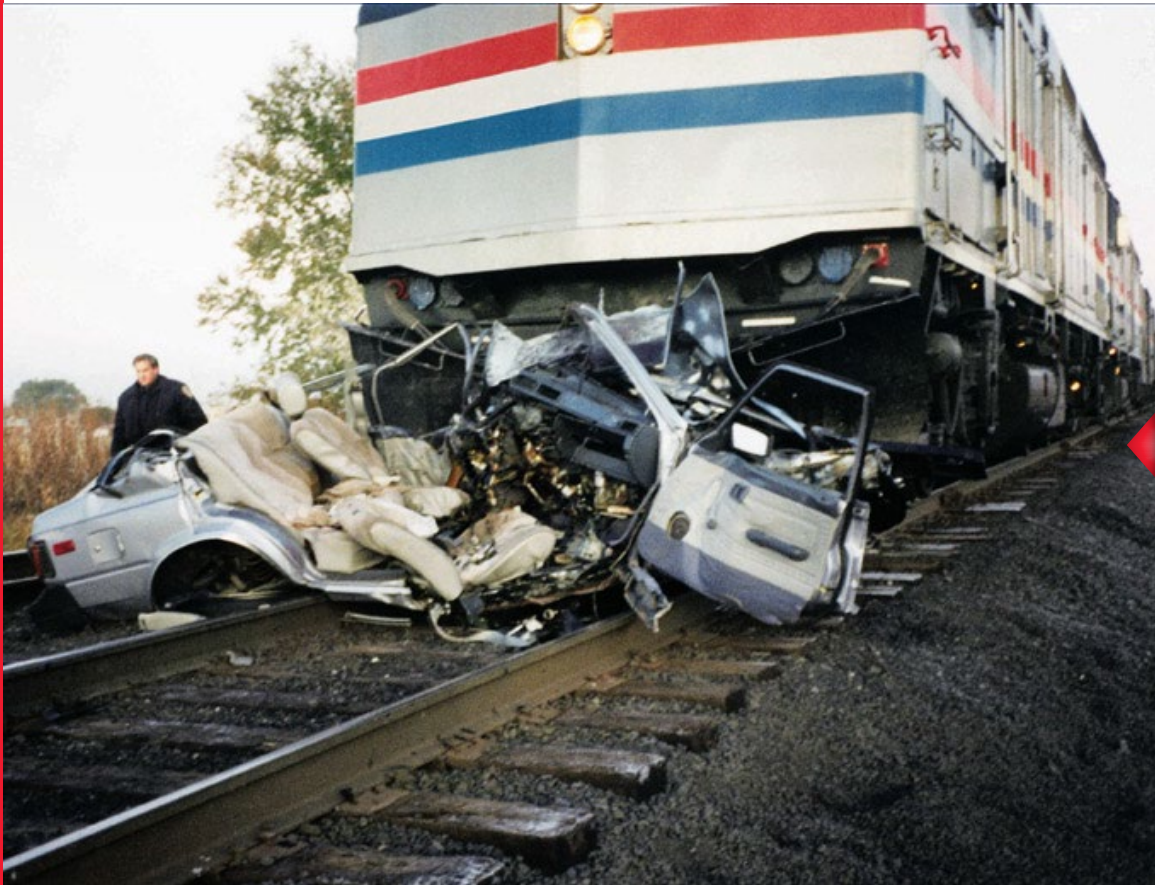
Never walk next to or in between rails.



High voltage of electricity powers trains up to 150 mph.

Never climb on top of trains or play with the overhead network of wires.

Train and Car Collisions



- Two construction workers were late for work.
- They approached a properly operating railroad crossing with the gates down.
- After waiting for the train to pass, they drove around the lowered crossing gates thinking it was safe.
- They were struck by an oncoming train on the other tracks.

Never drive around lowered gates.

Train and Truck Collisions



Collisions between tractor-trailers and trains cause severe damage. This truck was shoved a great distance from the crossing.

Reasons a tractor-trailer could get hit by a train:

- The driver may fail to look for an oncoming train.
- The driver may try to beat the train.
- Low clearance can cause the trailer to get hung up on the tracks.

Look, Listen & Live



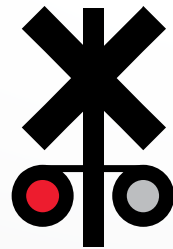
Look both
ways!



Listen for the
sound of a train!



If you look
and listen,
you will live!



**OPERATION
LIFESAVER**[®]

Look, Listen & Live

Road Parallels Track

This sign warns that the next turn will immediately approach a railroad crossing. Drivers should slow down and make the turn with caution and look for an approaching train.



Farm Machinery – Where to Cross



Cross only
at approved
crossings.

- Crossing the tracks, other than at a grade crossing, is dangerous and illegal.
- Large equipment takes longer to clear the tracks than a small motor vehicle.
- Don't try to beat the train to the crossing.
- Combines, sprayers, and other equipment are really big, but not as big as a 12 million pound train.



Farm Machinery – Crossing Safely



Slow down as you approach every crossing.

- Do not stop closer than 15 feet or further than 50 feet from the nearest rail.
- Turn off radios and air conditioners.
- Open your door or window to listen for a train.
- Watch for hump crossing signs where a close clearance can cause you to get hung-up on the tracks.
- If you get stuck, get out of your vehicle and look for an emergency phone number to contact the railroad—if you can't find it, call 911.



Working Near Tracks



If your job requires you to dig, survey, inspect, or work near the tracks, contact the railroad **before** the work begins. The railroad company will be able to assist you in working safely near their tracks.

See Tracks? Think Train!



THE MOST LOPSIDED ★ CLASH IN HISTORY. ★



MAN

175 LBS.
OF PURE, HUMAN
FLESH AND BLOOD

VS

TRAIN

6,000 TONS
OF SOLID BUILT
AMERICAN STEEL



IT'S NO CONTEST.

Every day, people tempt fate and die trespassing on railroad tracks.



SeeTracksThinkTrain.org

See Tracks? Think Train!



★ ★ THE MATCHUP ★ ★ THAT DOESN'T ADD UP.



CAR

1½ TONS
OF STEEL, PLASTIC,
RUBBER & GLASS

VS

TRAIN

6,000 TONS
OF SOLID BUILT
AMERICAN STEEL



IT'S NO CONTEST.

Every day, people are
injured or killed trying
to beat a train.



SeeTracksThinkTrain.org



See Tracks? Think Train!



THE DEADLY DANGER OF DISTRACTION.



MAN

175 LBS.
OF PURE, HUMAN
FLESH AND BLOOD

VS

TRAIN

80 TONS
OF SOLID BUILT
AMERICAN STEEL



IT'S NO CONTEST.

Every day, people tempt fate and are injured or killed around transit tracks.



SeeTracksThinkTrain.org

See Tracks? Think Train!



TOUCHDOWN

TOUCHDOWN

IT CAN TAKE THE LENGTH OF 18 FOOTBALL FIELDS

TO STOP A TRAIN.

See Tracks? Think Train!



SeeTracksThinkTrain.org





Thank You

