

Safe Community Coalition Pedestrian Flags Over Dane County

LEARN TO CROSS WITH PEDESTRIAN FLAGS

**5 minutes with our trained coaches will help
you cross the street quickly and safely!**

**Drop in for a very safe practice session on how to use
pedestrian flags at _____ (insert date, time) at our new
“flagged” crosswalk at _____**

A SIMPLE IDEA: Pedestrian Flags

The pedestrian picks up a flag from a container at the crosswalk curb, signals motorists of his intent to cross with it, then returns it to a bucket on the other side for the next person crossing the street.

THE CROSSWALK FLAG ADVANTAGE: A Quick, Safe Crossing

The bright flag catches the driver's attention and clarifies for him the pedestrian's plan to cross, which is enough to bring most drivers to a stop. When he combines flags with an assertive crossing technique (See OVER), the pedestrian gets the quick, safe, and respectful crossing that the state statute has promised, but not delivered, for many years. (The law requires drivers to yield to a pedestrian crossing in EVERY crosswalk, marked or unmarked. The fine is \$75.)

A professional evaluation at Madison's first location on Monroe Street showed that 53% of pedestrians use the flags and 79% of the time, a driver stops for the pedestrian before the next natural gap in traffic (while in-street signs get 18%).

Inspired by Salt Lake City's 105 “flagged” crosswalks, Dane County will have 21 by the end of June. With an expanded network, Madison and Dane County will be much safer and friendlier to walkers, who make such a strong, positive contribution to the environment, to our sense of community, and to their own health. **See the back of this sheet for a detailed explanation of the technique.**

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Cross at the flagged intersections whenever you can—and use the flags! Even if you feel you don't need them, using them trains drivers to stop for the vulnerable folks like children and the elderly who really need them.
- Be considerate of drivers—let cars too close to stop safely go on by, and wave a thank you to drivers who stop. They will often respond!
- When you drive, please yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk!

A _____ Neighborhood Assn. Project Questions?
Contact _____

For more information about Pedestrian Flags Over Dane County Project, contact the Safe Community Coalition at 256-6713, or Ann Clark, Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association, at 238-5612.

Safe Community Coalition's *Pedestrian Flags Over Dane County* is funded by a grant from ActiveForLife™, a project of AARP and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.