Emergency Vehicles

All drivers must yield to any emergency vehicle when it is displaying flashing blue and red or magenta lights, whether or not it is sounding a siren. As a driver you must slow your vehicle and where practicable provide a clear path for the emergency vehicle.

When you observe a stationary or slow moving emergency vehicle displaying flashing red and blue or magenta lights, all drivers must slow to **40kph** whilst passing the emergency vehicle.

This applies to drivers travelling in both directions of a single lane road.

Emergency vehicles include police, ambulance, MFB, SES, CFA, Forestry Management, Search & Rescue and VicRoads.





At A Collision Scene

- ⇒ If you are assisting at a collision, your safety is the first priority be aware of potential dangers.
- ⇒ Park your vehicle 50 metres back from the scene, with hazard lights operating to warn other drivers .
- ⇒ Do you know your current location? If not, you can use your smart phone to confirm the location through a maps app? Accuracy of the location is vital to ensure a timely attendance of emergency services.
- ⇒ Call Triple Zero (000). Give as many details as possible.
 Stay on the line until the operator lets you go.
- ⇒ Render any assistance that you can within your capabilities .
- ⇒ Remain at the scene until emergency services arrive. Your observations could assist any resulting investigations.









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Driving On Country Roads









In Car Driver Distractions

Mobile phones, navigation equipment and entertainment systems can all create major distractions for a driver. Using the bluetooth device of a mobile phone when driving can still cause distraction, calls should be kept to a minimum.

DVD screens must not be within a drivers sight of vision. Set your GPS before starting your journey. Passengers can also contribute to driver distraction and children will become fatigued and irritable when sitting in a car for long periods.



Driver Fatigue

MobileFatigue is one of the greatest contributors to road trauma. Modern cars with their quiet running systems, comfortable seating and long stretches of straight dual lane highways can be conducive to fatigue.

To combat fatigue, take regular breaks, stop at least every two hours, get out of the car, stretch the legs, check out the scenery and let your eyes re-focus.

Don't drive when you would normally be sleeping. Take a 15 minute powernap if you feel yourself becoming drowsy.



Speed Limit Changes

In an effort to further decrease the incidence of road trauma, reduced speed zones have been installed at dangerous or high collision intersections. These automatically lower the speed limit when a vehicle approaches from a side road.

These signs are currently in use on roads across the region, but are expected to become wide spread across the State. These speed limits are enforceable.



Giving Way To Stock

In rural areas farmers often need to move livestock across roads. They are required to erect signage indicating that drivers must give way to stock. Failing to give way to stock after observing these type of signs is an offence and can result in the issue of a penalty notice.

You may also be liable for any injuries or losses to livestock.





Oversize Farm Machinery

Across the region, it is not uncommon for slow moving large oversized farm machinery to be on the roads. Be patient when passing these vehicles, slow down and move as far to the left of the road as safely as possible.



Wildlife Hazards

Country roads are abundant with wildlife, including kangaroos, wallabies, deer and wombats.

Colliding with any of these animals can cause serious damage and/or injury. These animals are most active between dusk to dawn.

If possible try to avoid driving at these times. Enlist any passengers to be on the lookout for animal movements as well.

If a collision is unavoidable, maintain control of the vehicle, avoid swerving out of the way of the wildlife as this could result in losing control of the vehicle Apply the brakes firmly and remain in your lane.

