

Safe Driving

Dusk and Dawn



As our days get shorter and nights get longer, the sun can shine directly into drivers' eyes, leaving many motorists driving with a glare.

Sun glare isn't limited to driving towards the sun. It also has a dangerous effect when the sun is setting or rising behind you while driving. Sunlight can bounce off your rearview mirror/side mirror causing momentary blindness.

Although the sky may still be light, the road can be darker with deep shadows and objects in and on the side of the road can hide in the dark landscape, such as deer or other wildlife. There is less contrast in the colors of oncoming cars which make it harder to see them on the road ahead.

Drivers need to exercise extra caution, especially in areas with high foot traffic, such as cross walks, bus stops, and designated bicycle lanes. Many walkers, runners and cyclists use the roads at sunset and sunrise.

- Stay **alert, slow down** and leave a **greater space** between you and the other vehicles.

Prepare your vehicle for driving at dusk and dawn:

- Make sure your lights (headlights, brake lights, taillights, and indicators) are clean and working efficiently!
- Ensure your mirrors are clean and properly adjusted.
- Keep your windows and your windshield clean; inside and outside.
- Keep your dash free from clutter. Sunlight can add reflection to shiny items.
- Refrain from hanging items from the rearview mirror that are shiny, sparkly or reflective they can cause momentary blindness to you or to other drivers.
- Sunglass are an essential safety item for any driver year-round. They won't give perfect vision in a sun glare situation but can be of great help. Your car's sun visors are very useful in reducing glare, but remember, visors can also reduce your overall visibility.