

RAILROAD CROSSINGS:

Many accidents could be eliminated through planned safety procedures for crossing railroad tracks. Learn these procedures and practice them until they become automatic actions.

Chapter 17C, Article 12, Section 3 West Virginia Code:

"Certain vehicles must stop at all railroad grade crossings.

(a) The driver of any motor vehicle carrying passengers for hire, or of any school bus carrying any school child, or of any vehicle carrying explosive substances or flammable liquids as a cargo or part of a cargo, or of any vehicle owned by an employer which, in carrying on such employer's business or in carrying employees to and from work, is carrying more than six employees of such employer, before crossing at grade any track or tracks of a railroad, shall stop such vehicle within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train, and for signals indicating the approach of a train, except as hereinafter provided, and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. After stopping as required herein and upon proceeding when it is safe to do so the driver of any said vehicle shall cross only in such gear of the vehicle that there will be no necessity for changing gears while traversing such crossing and the driver shall not shift gears while crossing the track or tracks.

Crossing railroad tracks represents one of the greatest hazards insofar as mass casualties and fatalities are concerned. STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN. All school buses loaded or empty should stop for railroad crossings as a matter of safety if not a matter of law.