

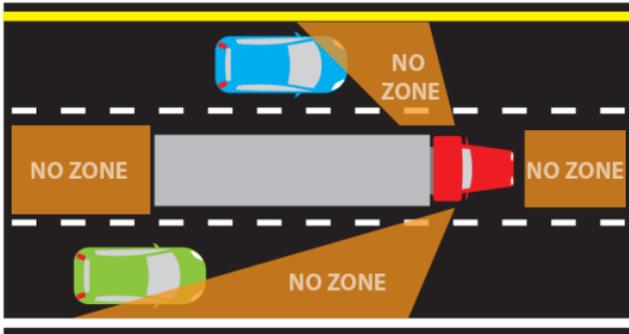


St. Johns County Sheriff's Office

"Taking Care of People"

Sharing the Road

Motorists and Commercial Motor Vehicles



Commercial motor vehicles (CMV), including large trucks and buses, have operating limitations such as large blind spots, long stopping distances and limited maneuverability that make it essential for other road users to put extra focus on safety.

Do your part by being a safe and courteous driver. The following are tips to help drivers share the road with commercial motor vehicles:

- Motorists are encouraged to stay out of the "No Zone." Commercial motor vehicles have large blind spots in front, behind, and on both sides of the vehicle; this is known as the "No Zone." Even though large vehicles have several rear-view mirrors, other vehicles will be hidden from view if within the "No Zone" or blind spot.
- Do not tailgate; you'll be in the rear blind spot and may collide with the truck if it stops unexpectedly.
- If you are stopped behind a truck on an upgrade, leave space in case the truck drifts back when it starts to move. Also, keep to the left in your lane so the driver can see that you're stopped behind the truck.
- Do not use high beam headlights when you are following a truck at night. Bright lights will blind the driver when they reflect off the truck's large side mirrors.
- When you meet a truck coming from the opposite direction, keep to the right to avoid a sideswipe crash.
- Commercial vehicles often need to swing wide to the left in order to make a right turn. Do not drive between the commercial vehicle and the curb—they will not be able to see you.
- Never cross behind a truck that is preparing to back up or is in the process of doing so. Remember, the size of most trucks and trailers completely hide objects behind them from view.
- Pass trucks on the left side for maximum visibility. Avoid cutting in too soon when passing a truck. Large vehicles cannot stop as quickly as other vehicles.
- When a truck passes you, keep to the right side of your lane. Do not speed up while the truck is passing you.