

# Maryland Pedestrian Safety Grows More Important in Darkest Months of the Year

**By: Hyatt and Weber**

<http://hyattweberestateplanning.com/>

November and December are the two darkest months of the year in Maryland. In addition to impacting our moods, the shorter daylight hours also mean increased [risks for Baltimore pedestrians and cyclists](#).

To help deter a spike in accidents, safety officials from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia are urging drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists to be more vigilant. The semi-annual [Street Smart public education campaign](#) aims to decrease the number of pedestrian injuries and fatalities that occur during November and December. During these months last year, there were more than 430 crashes involving pedestrians in the Washington metro region.

“People on foot and on bikes are often harder for drivers to see as we all adjust to the time of year when it’s dark by five o’clock in the afternoon and more walkers and cyclists are wearing dark coats and jackets,” said Todd Turner, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board. “That’s why it is so important for us to remind everyone to obey signs, signals and traffic laws, be more attentive, and be especially careful at intersections. Drivers should take extra caution, slow down, and obey speed limits.”

As part of the campaign, law enforcement in the region will also be ramping up enforcement efforts against drivers, cyclists and pedestrians who violate traffic safety laws. Drivers and cyclists who fail to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and pedestrians who jaywalk, for example, face fines ranging from \$40 to \$500. Drivers also are subject to getting points on their driver records.

*The Baltimore accident attorneys of [Hyatt & Weber, P.A.](#) understand the potentially devastating impact of a serious car accident. If you or someone you love has been injured due to someone else’s negligence, we are here to help. Our Baltimore injury lawyers are experienced and dedicated to pursuing the compensation you deserve.*

*To better understand your rights, contact us today at [leads@hwlaw.com](mailto:leads@hwlaw.com) or 410-777-5707 for a free consultation.*