

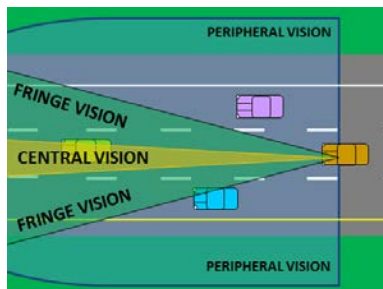
The condition of you, the driver, is very important to safe, defensive, and responsible driving. The safe operation of the vehicle all comes down to the driver. If you are not in good condition to drive, DON'T. Vision, other physical senses, emotions, and your physical condition are all things that you need to take into consideration before driving. You need to be "in shape" to drive.

Vision

Seeing things in time, is the key to dealing and handling problems while driving. The most common reason drivers give for being involved in a crash, is that, they "didn't see" the thing the crash was with. Since you are going to be using the physical sense of vision the most while driving, you need to understand it.

Visual Acuity – is how clearly you can see things. Wisconsin requires visual acuity of 20/40 in at least one eye, with or without the use of corrective lenses to qualify for a driver license. If you are not sure that your vision meets WI standards for driving, have your vision checked by an eye doctor. As the driver, you are responsible to make sure your vision is in the proper condition for driving safely.

Field of Vision – is the area that you can see while look forward. The normal driver has a field of vision of about 180 degrees. If your field of vision is less than 140-degrees, you have **tunnel vision** and will need to move your eyes and head more to get a better view of things. Your field of vision is divided into 3 areas:



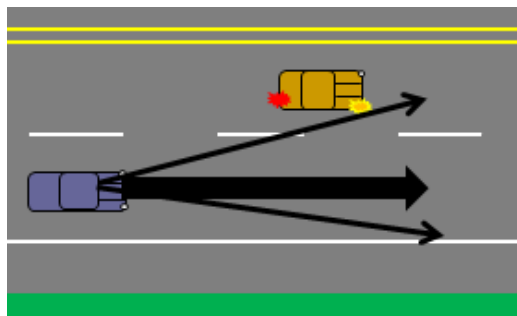
Central Vision – is the 5 to 10-degree cone shaped vision directly in front of you. This is the area that you see the clearest.

Fringe Vision – is the area between central and peripheral vision.

Peripheral Vision – is the area that you see next to you. It is also known as your side vision.

Depth Perception – is your ability to judge the distance between you and other vehicles or objects. If you have a depth perception problem, you will need to leave more space between you and other vehicles and objects.

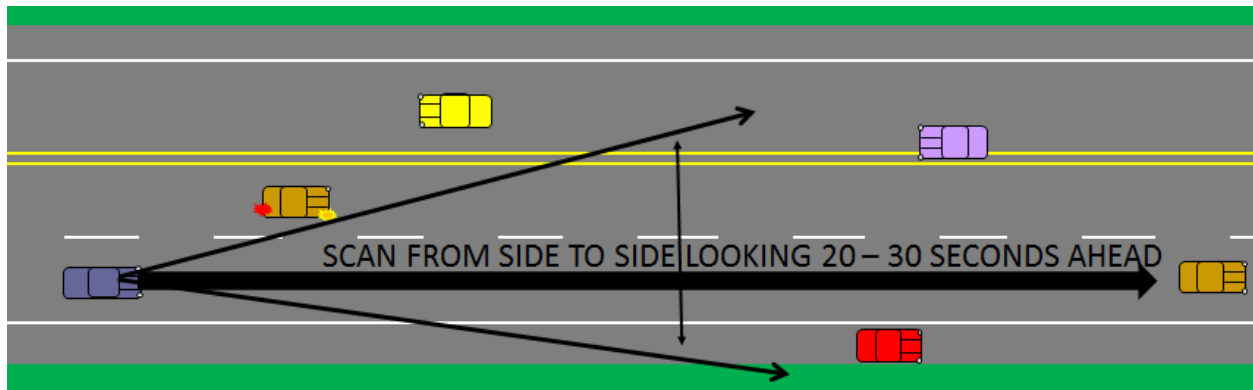
Visual Scanning – is when you keep your eyes moving to see as much as you can. While driving, you will need to scan the roadway ahead and from side to side. You need to look as far down the roadway as you can. Your minimum scanning area should be 20 – 30 seconds in front of you. The faster you go the farther down the roadway you need to look.



If you only look a short distance in front of your vehicle, you may miss things or not see them until the last moment.

Is there anything in the picture to the left you need to notice?

What? _____



If we are using proper visual scanning, we will see a lot more than if we were just look in front of the vehicle. Is there anything in the above picture that we need to notice? List the three things you need to notice on the line.

1.

2.

3.

Selective Seeing – is when you only look for and at things that will affect you, your vehicle, and driving path. Avoid looking at advertising signs, buildings, houses, and other fixed or stationary objects that are not in your driving path.

Color blindness – is when you have a difficult time telling the difference between colors. If you are color blind, you will need to remember the order of traffic signals, take extra looks at intersections, and reading traffic signs and knowing what they mean by the symbol. Also learn to take cues from other drivers.

Night blindness – is when you are not able to see well during times of darkness. You are more apt to have difficulty seeing at night if you spend a lot of time outside during the day or in bright light buildings. At times, you may need to sit in your vehicle for a few minutes allowing your eyes to adjust to the darkness before driving. If you do have trouble seeing at night, consider not driving or if you do, stay in well lit areas and take it slow.

Glare Resistance – is the ability to see things while looking in the direction of bright lights. It will vary from person to person. To determine if you have a high or low glare resistance, think about how long it took to see normally again after someone took a flash photo of you. The time it takes your eyes to see normally again is known as **glare recovery time**. When vehicles are approaching with bright lights, you may need to hold up your hand to block the light yet still allowing you to see your driving path.

Other Physical Senses

Even though you will use vision the most while driving, you are still going to use the other senses to help you drive safely.

Hearing – You will use the sense of hearing to help determine problems with your vehicle and what other vehicles around you are doing. You will listen for trains as you approach a crossing, for emergency vehicles approaching, and roadway conditions.

To help you hear things while driving, keep your radio volume down and avoid wearing earbuds or headphones. These things will reduce your ability to hear clues that help you drive safely.

Be sure to listen to and understand the sounds your vehicle makes. If something sounds off, don't ignore it. Find out if it is a problem. Ignoring the sounds your car makes, could lead you to some very costly repairs.

Smell – Yes, you will use the sense of smell while driving. In most cases, you will smell that your engine is overheating before seeing any signs. You will also use smell for gas or oil leaks, electrical fire problems, and overheating brakes.

Touch – As a driver, you will be using the sense of touch to operate the vehicle controls. You will feel where things are so that you don't have to look for controls. The vehicle manufacturers have made it easy to feel where the different controls are. They design the controls to feel different so that you don't have to look for them but just feel them. This way you can keep your eyes on the road. Remember, it only takes a second to miss something on the roadway and crash.

Before you start driving, get use to where each control is and how it feels, especially if you are not use to the vehicle.

Motion – The sense of motion will be used when going over hills and around curves. Going too fast around turns or curves will cause people and things in your car to slide around. It is hard for drivers to sense they may be taking the turn or curve too fast due to them bracing themselves with the steering wheel. Passengers that are relaxed in the vehicle will move easier.

Quick stops and starts can cause you, your passengers, and objects in the vehicle to be thrown forward or backward. Objects that are not secured down could fly down by the driver's feet and cause interference with the proper control of the gas and brake pedals.

Emotions

Your emotions will affect how safe a driver you will be. Anger, sorrow, confusion, depression, or being scared will cause you to think about the cause of the emotion and take your attention away from the task of safe, responsible, and defensive driving. We can't just turn our emotions off. We can, however, put them aside for a time being until we get safely to our destination.

Don't drive if you are angry or upset. Driving while angry or upset could cause you to make decisions that you might regret later. Little mistakes that other drivers make could anger or upset you even more. If you are angry or upset, take some time to "cool down" before getting in your vehicle to drive. Take a short walk or just sit and relax to calm down before driving.

If you get confused or scared while driving, find a safe place to stop and give yourself time to figure things out. Remember to find a safe spot even if it means going a few more blocks out of your way.

Many drivers get impatient with other roadway users. We are all out on the roadway attempting to get somewhere. Don't rush into a crash or death. How much time would that save you? Allow extra time to get places. Drivers tend to drive safer when they are not in such a rush.

Physical Conditions and Driving

Seeing that driving is a physical task, drivers need to make sure they are physically able to safely operate the vehicle. Short or long term physical conditions may prevent you from driving safely. If you feel you cannot drive safely, don't, have someone else drive.

Short term physical conditions such as injuries, illness, discomforts, and the use of alcohol and/or medications and drugs, can make it difficult to operate the vehicle in a safe manner.

Long term physical conditions may keep a driver from driving. If you have a medical condition that might affect your driving, consult your doctor about driving.

If your doctor tells you not to drive, don't. Driving after your doctor tells you not to could result in losing your license if you get stop by law enforcement or involved in a crash, even if it was not your fault.

Heart Conditions – If you have a heart condition that could lead to fainting or a heart attack, talk to your doctor about driving with the condition.

Epilepsy – If it is in control, epilepsy is not generally dangerous. WI law requires drivers with epilepsy to be under the care of a doctor and seizure free for 90 days. If you feel a seizure coming on, quickly stop and put the vehicle in park.

Diabetes – If there is chance of convulsion, shock, blackout, or an insulin reaction, diabetics who take insulin should not drive. Make sure you don't skip meals and take the correct dose of insulin.

Fatigue – Studies have shown that people who have been awake for 18 hours are as impaired for driving as people with an alcohol content of .05%. If you stay awake for a full 24 hours, you are equal to a person with an alcohol content of .10%.

Driving is primarily a mental task. As a driver, you need to be mentally and physically alert at all times. When you are tired, it takes you longer to notice things and make good decisions. If you are tired, don't drive. If you do, you could fall asleep and injure or kill someone or yourself.

If you get tired while driving, find a safe spot to pull into. Get some fresh air and walk around, have some soda or coffee. A short nap of 15 – 20 minutes can refresh you for another hour or two. Also try not to drive during the night if you normally do not drive at night. Plan your driving for when you are alert and ready.

Alcohol

YOUNG DRIVER RISKS - Not Just Driving—Riding With Others! - Young people remain especially vulnerable to the threat of alcohol and other drugs. This is not only from their own impaired driving, but also from getting in the car with other drivers who are not sober. **TRAFFIC CRASHES ARE THE LEADING KILLER OF YOUNG PEOPLE, AND NEARLY HALF ARE ALCOHOL RELATED.** In a national survey, nearly half of 10th graders and a third of eighth graders reported having ridden during the past month with a driver who had used alcohol or other drugs before taking the wheel.

Crash records indicate that young drivers under the influence of small amounts of alcohol appear to have more driving problems than older drivers. Most teenagers are intoxicated at low BAC levels. The young driver's chance of

a crash is much greater with BAC between .01-.08 percent than older drivers. This is due to low tolerance of alcohol and limited driving experience.

THE DECISION IS YOURS. BE RESPONSIBLE AND SMART—HELP YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS!

Alcohol and You - Researchers estimate that between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m., 1 of every 10 drivers is intoxicated. More than one third of these drivers have been drinking at someone else's home. Nearly 50 percent of the drivers arrested for operating under the influence (OUI) are social to moderate drinkers.

Don't think that it won't happen to you. In your lifetime, there's a high probability that you'll be involved in an alcohol related crash.

An Overview Of The Effects Of Alcohol - Before you can fully understand why drinking and driving result in fatalities on the roadways, you first need a better understanding of the effects of alcohol on the body.

How Does Alcohol Affect the Body? - Alcohol begins to be absorbed into the bloodstream within one to two minutes after an alcoholic beverage is consumed. As you consume alcohol, it accumulates in your blood. Intoxication occurs when you drink alcohol faster than the liver can oxidize it. As the percentage of alcohol in your blood increases, you become more intoxicated.

Once in the bloodstream, the alcohol is distributed to all parts of the body, including the brain and liver. Upon reaching the liver, the alcohol immediately begins to be oxidized. However, the liver can only oxidize about one drink per hour. Contrary to popular belief, this rate cannot be increased by drinking coffee, exercising, taking a cold shower or anything else. **Only time can sober a person who's been drinking. And remember, it is a slow process. Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes per serving.**

1 Serving:

1.5 oz of Liquor (40%)
=
5 oz of Wine (12%)
=
12 oz of regular beer (5%)



Specialty beers and liquor will have a higher alcohol content. One serving of a specialty beer or liquor will be less than 12 oz of beer and 1.5 oz of liquor.

What Is Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)? - Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) is a measurement of the percentage of alcohol in the blood. The higher the BAC number, the more impaired a person is. **In most states, including Wisconsin, .08 is the level of intoxication which is always illegal.** This means that for every 10,000 drops of blood in a person's body, there are eight drops of alcohol. BAC changes with body weight, time spent drinking, and the amount of alcohol that is consumed.

Amount of Alcohol Consumption - Each drink consumed within an hour increases the BAC level. The more you drink in a fixed amount of time, the higher your BAC will register. This happens no matter what you weigh — or what kind of alcoholic beverage you drink.

Rate of Alcoholic Consumption - Drinking three drinks in one hour will affect you more than drinking three drinks in three hours. Spacing the drinks over a longer period of time will slow the rate at which you become intoxicated and indicates responsible drinking habits.

Body Weight and Fat - The heavier the person, the more alcohol it takes to raise the BAC. Be aware of your size when drinking with others. If you are smaller than your friends and try to drink as much as they do, your judgment and inhibitions will probably be affected sooner.

Body fat also determines how quickly you are affected by alcohol. Alcohol is able to be absorbed in water, not fat. This simply means that people with less body fat have more water in which to dilute the alcohol. So, drink for drink, if people weigh the same, the one with more body fat will show signs of intoxication first.

Amount of Food in the Stomach - All the alcohol consumed eventually gets into the blood whether you have eaten or not. Food in the stomach causes alcohol to be absorbed more slowly, slowing down the rate and the amount of intoxication.

Overall Condition of the Body - Heavy and chronic drinking can harm virtually every organ and system in the body. The liver is particularly vulnerable to alcohol's harmful effects since it oxidizes approximately 90 percent of the alcohol in the body. If the liver is damaged or diseased, the rate of oxidation is reduced, causing the alcohol to stay in the body longer and the BAC to be higher for a longer time. Further, the effects of alcohol on the liver can lead to such diseases as hepatitis and cirrhosis.

RELATIONSHIP OF ALCOHOL TO TRAFFIC CRASHES - Driving after drinking is a widespread problem. It is estimated that two in every five Americans (or 40%) will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives. Each drink drastically increases your risk of having a traffic crash.

With a BAC of .10 percent, you are seven times more likely to cause a crash than if you were sober.

As your BAC increases to .15 percent, your chances of causing a traffic crash increase to 25 times.

At .17 percent BAC, you are 50 times more likely to cause a crash.

Alcohol's Effects on Driving Ability

BAC	Rough # of Drinks	Risk of Vehicle Crash	Comment
.01 - .03%	1 drink within 15 min	Rises for young adults and others with low tolerance for alcohol	Stiff penalties for BAC as low as .01% if driver under age 21
.04 - .07%	2 drinks within ½ hour	Definite for anyone with low tolerance levels	Most people feel high and have some loss of judgment. You may get louder and have some loss of small muscle control, like focusing your eyes
.08% - above		LEGAL INTOXICATION Definitely unsafe to drive.	Judgment and reasoning powers are severely hampered; cannot do common simple acts.
.10 - .12%	4 drinks within 2 hours	Increases 7 times the normal rate	Judgment loss increases. Most people claim they're not affected anymore, as if they would drink themselves sober when they are actually being affected more.
.13 - .15%	5 – 7 drinks within 3 hours	25 times the normal rate	You have far less muscle control than normal and feel happy, even though stumbling and acting foolishly.

.16 - .25%	8 – 12 drinks within 4 hours	50 times the normal rate	You are confused and need help doing things, even standing up. Alcohol-related roadway fatalities sharply increase.
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Behavior at each BAC level may differ somewhat with each individual. ALL people at the .10 percent level are definitely too impaired to drive safely. **Research has proven that driving skills, good judgment and vision are greatly impaired at BAC levels as low as .03 and .04 percent, especially for young drinkers.** The above table, named Alcohol's Effects on Driving Ability, describes different levels of intoxication and degree of behavior impairment at each level.

Alcohol's Effects on Driving Ability - Driving involves multiple tasks, and the demands can change continually. To drive safely, you must maintain alertness, make decisions based on ever-changing information present in the environment and execute maneuvers based on these decisions. Drinking alcohol impairs a wide range of skills necessary for carrying out these tasks. Fatal injuries, resulting from alcohol related traffic crashes, represent a tremendous loss of human life. In 2011 9,878 deaths nationwide (31% of all traffic fatalities) were alcohol-related. In Wisconsin, 40 percent of all traffic fatalities were alcohol-related.

The plain and simple fact is that you cannot drive safely when you are impaired by alcohol. The two abilities most important to the driving task are judgment and vision, both of which are affected by small amounts of alcohol. Your ability to judge speed, time and distance are altered after only one drink. Each extra drink greatly affects your driving ability. In addition, your reaction time and coordination begin to deteriorate, while your alertness and concentration fade. All of this adds up to a deadly combination.

Judgment: Ability to Think Clearly and Make Quick Decisions - Good judgment decreases with the use of alcohol. The concern for physical well being also lessens. People under the influence of alcohol take unnecessary and dangerous risks. Examples are driving too fast, passing cars without enough clear distance and speeding around curves. Showing off is another example of impaired judgment.

Vision: Ability to See Clearly Straight Ahead, to the Side and at Night - Alcohol decreases clearness of vision. It reduces the ability to see clearly at night by more than half. Glare vision is poor because of relaxed eye muscles. Glare recovery is also slowed by alcohol. Side vision is reduced by about 30 percent at .05 percent BAC. Judging depth or distance is affected because alcohol causes each eye to get a slightly different picture. These vision impairments greatly increase the chances of a head-on or rear-end collision. Eye muscles are relaxed by alcohol and cannot focus properly. Because the eyes provide almost 90 percent of the information used in driving, any restriction in vision can cause disastrous results.

Reaction Time and Coordination: This is the ability to react quickly and safely to an emergency or hazardous situation—being able to keep eyes, hands and feet working together. Reaction and coordination are impaired by alcohol consumption as low as .02 percent BAC. It takes longer to react. Coordination skills to control the car with hands, feet and eyes in response to other vehicles and the road are drastically reduced as alcohol intake increases.

Alertness and Concentration - Being ready to react to changing driving conditions or situations, keeping your mind on driving and paying attention to the task at hand. Alcohol, in any concentration, is a depressant, not a stimulant. Alcohol slows all nerve impulses and body functions. The false feeling of stimulation that comes with small doses of alcohol is caused by the lessening of inhibitions. That's because the particular portion of the brain controlling this part of behavior is being relaxed. In reality, alcohol has the effect of limiting a driver's ability to be alert and to concentrate.

Implied Consent Law - Wisconsin law considers anyone operating a motor vehicle in the state to have given IMPLIED CONSENT to a chemical test for detecting drunk or drugged driving.

§343.305 (2) ...any person who drives or operates a motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state is deemed to have given consent to one or more tests of his or her breath, blood, or urine, for the purpose of determining the presence or quantity in his or her blood or breath of alcohol, controlled substances, controlled substance analogs or other drugs or any combination of alcohol, controlled substances, controlled substance analogs, and other drugs, when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer or when required to do so...

Refusing to take the requested test will result in the revocation of the person's operator's license for 12 months.

Absolute Sobriety or "Not a Drop" Law - The Absolute Sobriety law is more commonly referred to as "Not A Drop". Wisconsin law clearly defines that any person not of legal drinking age (currently 21 years of age), cannot drive if s/he has consumed ANY alcohol. The law states:

§346.63 (2m) If a person has not attained the legal drinking age, as defined in §125.02 (8m), the person may not drive or operate a motor vehicle while he or she has an alcohol concentration of more than 0.0 but not more than 0.08. One penalty for violation of this subsection is suspension of a person's operating privilege under §343.30 (1p)...

Simply put, if you are under the legal drinking age and drive after having even one drink of beer, wine, liquor, etc., you can be arrested.

The **MINIMUM** penalty for violating this law is \$389.50, with a four (4) point assessment to the driver's Wisconsin operator's record. Violating the Absolute Sobriety law also results in a suspension of a person's driving privileges in Wisconsin for at least 90 days. There are increased penalties if there is a passenger in the car who is under 16 years of age.

Expenses for a conviction for an Absolute Sobriety violation do not stop with the citation. Even if the driver is arrested for Absolute Sobriety, a citation for underage consumption may also be issued. Expenses for violating the Absolute Sobriety law may also include court and attorney's fees, higher insurance costs, and additional fees to reinstate driving privileges.

PREVENTION OF DRINKING AND DRIVING - The best advice, of course, is simply to not drink when you know you are going to drive. One of the most successful programs in recent years has been the designated driver concept, where friends agree ahead of time which person will remain strictly sober. Many night clubs offer the designated driver free non-alcoholic beverages for the evening. Young people, who do not want to drink in the first place, are finding it more socially acceptable to offer to be the designated driver.

Avoiding the Risks - Alcohol-related crashes are not accidents. They can be prevented. If you are planning a night on the town, decide before you start drinking that you are not going to drive. Remember, alcohol affects your judgment. It's a lot more difficult to make the decision not to drive after one or two drinks.

Use the following tips to keep from drinking and driving and still have a good time:

- Drive to social events in groups of two or more and have the driver agree not to drink.
- Arrange to ride with a friend who is not drinking.
- Before you start drinking, give your vehicle keys to someone who isn't drinking and who won't let you drive after drinking.

- If someone offers you a drink and you plan to drive, simply say, “No thanks, I’m driving.”

Drugs and Medications

“Every Day” Drugs - One of the most common and most dangerous instances of drug abuse occurs when people mix alcohol with prescription and over-the-counter drugs. For example, when alcohol is combined with another depressant, like tranquilizers or sedatives, the results are not just added together; they are multiplied. Even some over-the-counter medicines can affect driving. The effects are much stronger, much more dangerous and can affect your driving skills.

If your doctor prescribes a tranquilizer or sedative, make a point to discuss how the drug will affect your ability to drive safely. Just because a drug is prescribed, by law, this is NO defense for operating under the influence of it.

Non-prescription drugs, such as cold tablets, cough syrups, allergy remedies, etc., purchased over-the-counter may contain antihistamines, alcohol, codeine and other compounds that can be especially dangerous for drivers. Read labels and pay attention to warnings (e.g., “may cause drowsiness,” “do not operate machinery,” “caution against engaging in operations requiring alertness”).

If you have questions about a particular drug or combination of drugs, check with your doctor or pharmacist.

Studies indicate that marijuana and other drugs also affect judgment and motor functions. This makes driving under the influence of drugs other than alcohol dangerous as well. In Wisconsin, it is unlawful for any person to drive or be in physical control of an automobile or other motor-driven vehicle on any public street, highway, road or alley while:

1. Under the influence of any intoxicant, marijuana, narcotic drug or drugs producing stimulating effects on the central nervous system; or
2. While the alcohol concentration of the operator’s blood or breath is .08 percent or higher.

The defendant’s ability to drive when using drugs may be sufficiently impaired to constitute an OUI violation. A driver can register an BAC of .00 percent and still be convicted of an OUI. The level of BAC does not clear a driver when it is below .08 percent. If a law enforcement officer observes things, such as erratic driving behavior, or maintaining an inappropriate speed (too fast or too slow), it would be sufficient cause for stopping the vehicle to investigate. Further sobriety checks could lead to the conclusion that the driver was indeed “Operating Under the Influence” of an intoxicant, narcotic drug or other drug producing stimulating effects on the central nervous system, including prescription drugs. If you have any doubt about your ability to drive, don’t get behind the wheel.

Inattentive Driving

Your main task while driving is to safely operate the vehicle. Attempting to do other things while driving, may result in leaving the roadway, not seeing a pedestrian, sign, or something in the roadway, and can lead to a crash, injury, or even death to you or others. Don’t let things distract you while driving. Inattentive driving is a leading cause of crashes. The main excuse people give for their crash is that they “didn’t see” something because they were busy eating, drinking, reading, look at a map, putting on makeup, brushing their teeth, smoking, changing the radio or CD, or looking for something.

WI State Statute 346.89(3) prohibits texting while driving. Just don't do it, that text can wait until you are at a safe place. Taking your eyes off the road and your hand(s) off the steering wheel for just one second can be deadly. At 30 mph your car travels approximately 45 feet per second.

Don't be distracted by your music. When a great song comes on, don't turn up the volume and start dancing in your seat while driving. You can still enjoy the song while driving safely.

Organ and Tissue Donation

SIGNING UP

Who may sign up on the Wisconsin Donor Registry? The Wisconsin Donor Registry allows Wisconsin citizens who are at least 15½ years of age to register as an organ, tissue and eye donor upon their death.

Can my family override my decision to donate? Once you register as a donor, you have made a record of anatomical gift in accordance with Wisconsin state law. If you are at least 18 years old or an emancipated minor, your decision may not be overridden by your family or any other person. Donation professionals will present to your family documentation of your inclusion in the Wisconsin Donor Registry and work with them to honor that decision.

Why register? Isn't it enough to have a donor card or orange dot on my driver license? Most of the time a person's driver's license or donor card is not readily available to the family or donation professionals. The Registry allows donation professionals to find out if a person has registered as a donor by signing in to a secure website maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

If I already have an orange dot on my driver's license, will my name automatically be transferred to the Registry? The orange donor dot on your driver's license does not automatically enroll you as a donor in the Registry database. Register online at YesIWillWisconsin.com or you may register when you apply for or renew your driver's license at the Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles.

Who can be a donor? Anyone can register to be a donor, even if you have pre-existing medical conditions. At the time of passing, donation professionals will review the patient's medical and social histories, and current medical tests, to determine eligibility for donation.

How do you ensure that someone does not sign up another person without his or her Knowledge or consent? There are state donor registries now in operation in each state and none have reported problems with persons registering people other than themselves. The legitimacy of the registrant can be determined using the date/time of the registration and personal information requested during the signup process. Family members are also consulted at the time of donation and will be able to verify the donor's information at that time.

Does the Registry allow me to sign up to be a marrow or living organ donor? No. Please use the websites listed below for information about donating blood, bone marrow, or an organ before your death:

Blood Donation: The American Red Cross: www.redcrossblood.org or The Blood Center of Wisconsin: www.bcw.edu

Bone Marrow: The Blood Center of Wisconsin: www.bcw.edu or National Bone Marrow Registry: www.marrow.org

Living Organ Donation: Children's Hospital of Wisconsin: www.chw.org or Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital: www.froedtert.com
Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center: www.aurorahealthcare.org or UW Hospital and Clinics: www.uwhealth.org/livingdonor

Does my registration give consent for whole body donation? Signing up on the Registry does not grant permission for your body to be donated to medical schools. Donation for transplant or research is not the same as willed body donation. Willed whole body programs are usually associated with teaching hospitals at major universities, and arrangements must be made in advance directly with the institutions. Please note: should you choose to consent to whole body donation, you will be unable to donate your organs, tissue or eyes for transplant.

How do people in other states sign up to be a donor? Is there a national registry? There is no national registry. All matters concerning organ, tissue and eye donation are under the jurisdiction of each state's respective laws.

What if I don't have an e-mail account or access to a computer? You may sign up at your neighborhood library or use a friend or relative's internet access by visiting the www.YesIWillWisconsin.com website.

I don't want to sign up online. Is there any other way to register? You may register to be a donor when you apply for or renew your driver's license or ID card through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). If you are unable to sign up online or through the DMV, you may sign a donor card to indicate your wishes. However, please share your decision with your family in case the donor card is not available at the time of your death.

What should I do after registering? Share your decision with your family in case the donor card is not available at the time of your death.

Who is responsible for administering the Registry? The Wisconsin Donor Registry is authorized by s. 157.06(20) Stats., and maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

How can I be sure my information is kept confidential? As a state-authorized public service, the Wisconsin Donor Registry adheres to the strictest and most up-to-date guidelines to keep all personal information confidential. We assure you that every precaution is in place to protect the information. Of the state donor registries now in operation across the country, there are no reported problems with unauthorized access to personal information.

DONATION INFORMATION

What is organ, tissue and eye donation? Donation is the process of recovering organs, tissues and eyes from a deceased person and transplanting them into others in order to save or improve the lives of those in need. Up to eight lives can be saved through organ donation, and another 50 lives may be improved through eye and tissue donation.

Where can I learn more about organ, tissue and eye donation? For general donation information, go to www.donatelifewisconsin.org or www.donatelife.net.

How many people need donated organs, tissue and eyes? There are more than 2,200 people on waiting lists for organ transplants in Wisconsin and more than 121,000 nationwide. Hundreds are waiting for a cornea transplant to restore their sight. Thousands more wait for the chance to live without pain through a bone or soft tissue transplant.

What organs, tissues and eyes may be donated? There are eight organs that may be transplanted: heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine. Donated tissue includes skin for treating burn patients, serious abrasions, hernia repairs and reconstructive surgeries for patients such as breast cancer survivors. Bone is used in orthopedic surgery to facilitate healing of fractures or prevent amputation. Heart valves are used to replace

defective valves. Tendons are used to repair torn ligaments on knees or other joints. Veins are used in surgeries. Corneas can restore sight to the blind.

DONATION PROCESS

If I am registered as a donor, will my medical care be affected? Medical and nursing care is not affected in any way by your status as a registered donor. Every attempt is made to save your life. In fact, patients must receive the most aggressive life-saving care in order to be potential organ donors. The medical team that works to save your life is a separate team from those who procure the organs.

If I am a donor, what kind of tests do they conduct on my body? Once death has been declared and authorization is verified through the Donor Registry, donation professionals must conduct blood tests and other standard medical tests to determine whether or not the patient is suitable to be a donor.

How do people get added to the transplant waiting list? The process of joining the National Organ Transplant Waiting List begins with a physician referral and an evaluation at a transplant center. The transplant center evaluates patients to determine whether they may be suitable candidates for a transplant.

Can organs be sold? Buying and selling organs for the purpose of transplantation is illegal in the United States and most countries throughout the world.

Is my family or estate charged for donation? There is no cost to the donor's family for organ, tissue and eye donation. Families are responsible for hospital expenses incurred by the patient before donation. Funeral expenses remain the responsibility of the donor's family.

Who pays for donated organs, tissues and eyes? All costs associated with organ, tissue and eye recovery are assumed by the recovery organizations. These costs are then reimbursed by transplant centers that, in turn, bill private and public insurance plans.

What if my family members are opposed to donation? Once an individual, who is an emancipated minor or is over the age of 18, has made the decision to be an organ, tissue and eye donor and has enrolled in the Wisconsin Donor Registry, that individual's decision is honored. Family members cannot override that individual's decision to donate. In the event of a loved one's sudden death, it may ease the family's pain to already know the wishes of their loved one regarding donation. For this reason we recommend that you share your wishes with your family today.

What if I change my mind and don't want to be a donor? You may remove your name from the Wisconsin Donor Registry at any time. Go to www.YesIWillWisconsin and click on the Wisconsin Donor Registry link.

Does my religion support organ, tissue and eye donation? With very few exceptions, all major religions throughout the world support or permit donation, with most viewing it as a humanitarian act of giving.

Does donation affect funeral arrangements? The donor's body is treated with great respect and dignity throughout the process. Recovery agencies work closely with funeral service providers to ensure that there are no untimely delays. Families can still have an open-casket funeral and/or viewing if that is their wish.

Do the donor and recipient families meet? The identity of all parties is kept confidential. The donation agencies facilitate anonymous correspondence between donor families and recipients. Some even choose to meet each other through the donation agencies.