

## **Legal Meaning of Flashing Don't Walk - Survey**

Question raised by Mark Luszcz, DE

Distributed 4/5/16

### **Issue/Question:**

The MUTCD and UVC are consistent in that pedestrians are not legally allowed to begin crossing during the Flashing Don't Walk phase. Do any of your states, or local jurisdictions within your states, have laws that allow pedestrians to legally enter the crosswalk during the Flashing Don't Walk phase? MUTCD and UVC language is noted below for reference.

### ***MUTCD – 4E.02***

A flashing UPRaised HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on a steady WALKING PERSON (symbolizing WALK) signal indication shall proceed to the far side of the traveled way of the street or highway, unless otherwise directed by a traffic control device to proceed only to the median of a divided highway or only to some other island or pedestrian refuge area.

### ***UVC – 11-203***

Flashing or Steady Don't Walk or Upraised Palm – No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the don't walk or upraised palm signal is showing.

### **Summary:**

- 36 responses.
- Additional details from responses (mostly copies of state codes) are included after the response summary table.
- Only 1 state that responded has a state law that allows pedestrians to legally enter the crosswalk on the Flashing Don't Walk phase (Indiana).
- Some states don't specifically address pedestrian indications in state law; some respondents were not sure if local ordinances might allow this.

**Responses:**

| State | Response  |
|-------|---|
| AK    | Alaska's Admin. Code below. We don't have laws that allow pedestrians to legally enter the crosswalk during the Flashing Don't Walk phase.  |
| AL    | [No] Alabama's statute is below.....and local jurisdictions cannot adopt conflicting legislation:   |
| AR    | No.   |
| AZ    | Arizona Revised Statute 28-646 ( <a href="http://azleg.gov/ars/28/00646.htm">http://azleg.gov/ars/28/00646.htm</a> ) is similar to our neighbor's, but with a bonus anti-loitering provision. No mention of plodding or lollygagging, though.   |
| CA    | The California MUTCD is consistent with the MUTCD and UVC. The CA MUTCD states that pedestrians are not legally allowed to begin crossing during the Flashing Don't Walk phase. CA MUTCD language is below:   |
| CO    | Short answer in Colorado is no, flashing don't walk means don't start. Statute (and Colorado model traffic code , which is same language) is copied below.  |
| CT    | Here are a couple of Connecticut Statutes which conform to the MUTCD and UVC:   |
| DE    | No.   |
| GA    | Georgia code is consistent.   |
| IA    | Iowa law is consistent with MUTCD and UVC.  |
| IL    | Illinois statutes mostly match the UVC language.  |
| IN    | The Indiana Code provides an exception where countdown displays are used; a pedestrian may enter provided they can complete the crossing during the flashing don't walk phase.  |
| KY    | Surprisingly, Kentucky statutes appear to be silent on the legality of pedestrian displays. Our statues cover proper behavior for pedestrians looking at red, green, and yellow signal displays, but does not address pedestrian displays. Looks like I need to pursue a proposed "mod" to our legislative liaison. Due to the absence of any specific statute, I would assume any questions/interpretations of legality would likely be based on the MUTCD language. |
| LA    | No.   |
| MA    | Massachusetts does not legally allow pedestrians to enter a crosswalk during the "Don't Walk" phase.  |
| MD    | The Maryland law matches the MUTCD and UVC.   |
| MI    | Michigan does not.  |
| MN    | No.   |
| MO    | No.   |
| MS    | Mississippi law does not specifically address pedestrian signal indications.  |

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| <b>MT</b> | No.  |
| <b>NB</b> | No.  |
| <b>NC</b> | [No] The North Carolina law prohibits pedestrians from entering on the DON'T WALK. We do not distinguish flashing. So, NC is no you can not legally enter, but it is a common practice. People treat the flashing DON'T WALK as the "yellow" for pedestrians.  |
| <b>NH</b> | No.  |
| <b>NJ</b> | Mark: I hope all is well. NJ has no specific reference to W or FDW in our motor vehicle law; 39:4-32c comes the closest, referencing peds crossing or starting on a “go” or green signal being allowed to complete the crossing should the signal change. However, NJ adopts the MUTCD regarding signals under 39:4-120 and adopts it for signs and markings under 39:4-183.27, so by law, we’re required to follow all MUTCD standards. Since 4E.02 is a standard, that language represents our legal requirements. |
| <b>NM</b> | New Mexico statute is pretty generic and does not address flashing “don’t walk”:   |
| <b>NY</b> | No.  |
| <b>OH</b> | No.  |
| <b>OR</b> | No.  |
| <b>PA</b> | No.  |
| <b>SC</b> | The intent of the law appears to associate the ‘wait’ with the ‘flashing don’t walk or raised hand symbol. In South Carolina, our law supports the MUTCD decision on this issue. A link to our motor vehicle code is below:<br><a href="http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/title56.php">http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/title56.php</a>   |
| <b>SD</b> | South Dakota does not have any laws that allow pedestrians to legally enter the crosswalk during the Flashing Don’t Walk phase. They lawfully need to follow the traffic signal control and SDDOT adopts the MUTCD.  |
| <b>VA</b> | The Code of Virginia and local Virginia municipal codes are consistent with the MUTCD & UVC. On occasion, there are internal staff-level discussions about whether pedestrians should be allowed to start crossing on the flashing don’t walk symbol, provided they can complete their crossing before the countdown reaches “0”. We too have heard that some localities have enacted such an ordinance.   |
| <b>WI</b> | The Wisconsin statute was recently revised to make the pedestrian indication language more generic. I cannot address local ordinances.   |
| <b>WV</b> | WV is Code is archaic in terms but it does not appear that it would permit a pedestrian to leave the curb while facing a flashing DON’T WALK signal.   |
| <b>WY</b> | Wyoming's law on this subject is very similar to Alabama's law.  |

## Information Provided:

### Alabama

#### Section 32-5A-33

##### **Pedestrian-control signals.**

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words or symbols "walk" or "don't walk" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

- (1) "WALK". Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right of way by the drivers of all vehicles.
- (2) "DON'T WALK". No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is showing.
- (3) "DON'T WALK" (flashing). No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is flashing.

*(Acts 1980, No. 80-434, p. 604, §2-103.)*

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### Alaska

13 AAC 02.015. Pedestrian-control signals When a pedestrian-control signal exhibiting the words "walk" or "don't walk" is in place, the signal indicates as follows: (1) "walk" - a pedestrian facing this signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal, and every driver must yield the right-of-way to the pedestrian; (2) "don't walk" - no pedestrian may start to cross the roadway in the direction of this signal; a pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is showing.

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### Arizona

28-646. Pedestrian control signals; loitering prohibited

A. If special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "walk" or "don't walk" or a symbol of a walking person that symbolizes the word "walk" or a symbol of an upraised hand that symbolizes the words "don't walk" are in place, the signals shall indicate as follows:

1. Walk or a symbol of a walking person. Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of vehicles.
2. Don't walk or a symbol of an upraised hand. A pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but a pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the don't walk signal is showing.

B. A pedestrian shall not loiter or unduly delay crossing the roadway after traffic has stopped to give the right-of-way.

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**Arkansas**

exhibiting the words “WALK” or “WAIT” or “DON’T WALK” are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) “WALK” means pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles; and (2) “WAIT” or “DON’T WALK” means no pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the wait signal is showing.

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**California****Section 4E.02**

**B. A flashing UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on a steady WALKING PERSON (symbolizing WALK) signal indication shall proceed out of the traveled way.**

**C. A steady UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not enter the roadway in the direction of the signal indication.**

It is also included in Section 21456 of the California Vehicle Code, so no local agencies could deviate from this law.

21456. Whenever a pedestrian control signal showing the words "WALK" or "WAIT" or "DONT WALK" or other approved symbol is in place, the signal shall indicate as follows:

(a) "WALK" or approved "Walking Person" symbol. A pedestrian facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal, but shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that signal is first shown.

(b) Flashing or steady "DONT WALK" or "WAIT" or approved "Upraised Hand" symbol. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed crossing shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety zone or otherwise leave the roadway while the "WAIT" or "DONT WALK" or approved "Upraised Hand" symbol is showing.

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**Colorado****42-4-802. Pedestrians’ right-of-way in crosswalks**

(1) When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply under the conditions stated in section 42-4-803.

(3) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and ride a bicycle, ride an electrical assisted bicycle, walk, or run into the path of a moving vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

- (4) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.
- (5) Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting “Walk” or “Don’t Walk” word or symbol indications are in place, as declared in the traffic control manual adopted by the department of transportation, such signals shall indicate and require as follows:
- (a) “Walk” (steady): While the “Walk” indication is steadily illuminated, pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal indication and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.
- (b) “Don’t Walk” (steady): While the “Don’t Walk” indication is steadily illuminated, no pedestrian shall enter the roadway in the direction of the signal indication.
- (c) “Don’t Walk” (flashing): Whenever the “Don’t Walk” indication is flashing, no pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal indication, but any pedestrian who has partly completed crossing during the “Walk” indication shall proceed to a sidewalk or to a safety island, and all drivers of vehicles shall yield to any such pedestrian.
- (d) Whenever a signal system provides for the stopping of all vehicular traffic and the exclusive movement of pedestrians and “Walk” and “Don’t Walk” signal indications control such pedestrian movement, pedestrians may cross in any direction between corners of the intersection offering the shortest route within the boundaries of the intersection while the “Walk” indication is exhibited, if signals and other official devices direct pedestrian movement in such manner consistent with section 42-4-803 (4).
- (6) Any person who violates any provision of this section commits a class A traffic infraction.

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**Connecticut**

Sec. 14-299. (5) Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows: "Walk": Pedestrians facing such signals may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles; "Don't Walk": No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "Don't Walk" signal is showing.

Sec. 14-300 (b) At any intersection where special pedestrian-control signals bearing the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are placed, pedestrians may cross the highway only as indicated by the signal. At any intersection where traffic is controlled by other traffic control signals or by police officers, pedestrians shall not cross the highway against a red or "Stop" signal and shall not cross at any place not a marked or unmarked crosswalk. A pedestrian started or starting across the highway on a "Walk" signal or on any such crosswalk on a green or "Go" signal shall have the right-of-way over all vehicles, including those making turns, until such pedestrian has reached the opposite curb or safety zone.

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**Delaware**

Title 21  
§ 4109 Pedestrian-control signals.

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words or symbols "Walk" or "Don't Start" or "Don't Walk" are in place, such signals shall take precedence over pedestrian movements outlined in § 4108 of this title. Such signals shall apply as follows:

- (1) "Walk" or flashing "Walk". — Pedestrians facing such signals may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the driver of all vehicles.
- (2) "Don't Walk" or flashing "Don't Walk" or "Don't Start". — No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to the nearest sidewalk or safety island.

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**Georgia**

§ 40-6-22. Pedestrian-control signals

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words WALK or DON'T WALK or symbols so directing a pedestrian are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

- (1) Word or symbol message WALK. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal. Every driver of a vehicle shall stop and remain stopped for such pedestrians; and
- (2) Flashing or steady DON'T WALK. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the WALK signal shall proceed to sidewalk or safety island while the DON'T WALK signal is showing.

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**Illinois**

(b) Don't Walk or upraised palm symbol. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partly completed his crossing on the Walk signal or walking person symbol shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "Don't Walk" signal or upraised palm symbol is illuminated, steady, or flashing.

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**Indiana**

IC 9-21-17-2

"Walk" and "don't walk" signals

Sec. 2. Whenever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "walk" or "don't walk" are in place, the signals must indicate as follows:

- (1) Flashing or steady "walk" means a pedestrian facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and a person who drives a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to the pedestrian.
- (2) Steady "don't walk" means a pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal. A pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the "walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is showing.

(3) Flashing "don't walk" means a pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal. A pedestrian who has already started to cross on the "walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island. If a countdown pedestrian signal indication is also shown, a pedestrian may cross if the pedestrian is able to proceed to the sidewalk or safety island by the time the steady "don't walk" signal is shown, and a person who drives a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to the pedestrian.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.8-2010, SEC.8.

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**Louisiana**

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) Flashing or Steady WALK--A pedestrian facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by a driver of a vehicle.

(2) Flashing or Steady DON'T WALK--No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but a pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "Walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "Don't Walk" signal is showing.

Acts 1962, No. 310, §1. Amended by Acts 1978, No. 551, §1.

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**Massachusetts**

Here is the excerpt from Section 9.09 of CMR 720 (Code of Massachusetts Regulations for State Highways) in Massachusetts:

(b) Red Alone or "Don't Walk". Whenever the words "Don't Walk" or the Up-raised Hand symbol are illuminated in a traffic control signal where pedestrian indications are provided, pedestrians approaching or facing such indication shall wait on the sidewalk, edge of roadway or in the pedestrian refuge area of a traffic island and shall not enter upon or cross a roadway until the proper indication is illuminated in the traffic control signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the walk indication shall proceed or return to the nearest sidewalk or safety island on the yellow indication, the red indication, the Up-raised Hand symbol or when the words "Don't Walk" are illuminated by rapid intermittent flashes.

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**Minnesota**

State Statute 169.06

Subd. 6. Pedestrian control signal.

(a) Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" or symbols of a "walking person" or "upraised hand" are in place, the signals or symbols indicate as follows:

(1) A steady "Walk" signal or the symbol of a "walking person" indicates that a pedestrian facing either of these signals may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal, possibly in conflict with turning vehicles. Every driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to such pedestrian except that the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that either signal indication is first shown.

(2) A "Don't Walk" signal or the symbol of an "upraised hand," flashing or steady, indicates that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of either signal, but any pedestrian who has partially crossed on the "Walk" or "walking person" signal indication shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the signal is showing.

(b) A pedestrian crossing a roadway in conformity with this section is lawfully within the intersection and, when in a crosswalk, is lawfully within the crosswalk.

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## Mississippi

Article 7, Section 63-3-309, "Traffic-control signal colors and rules" states that the "... (signal) lights shall indicate as follows...

(2) Yellow alone or "Caution" when shown following the green or Go signal. (b) Pedestrians facing such a signal are thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway, and any pedestrian then starting to cross shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles."

Article 23, Section 63-3-1101, "Pedestrians subject to traffic-control signals at intersections; privileges and restrictions at other locations" states "Pedestrians shall be subject to traffic control signals at intersections as heretofore declared in this chapter."

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## Missouri

Rules for pedestrians controlled by special signs.

304.291. Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) Walk. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) Don't Walk. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is showing.

(L. 1969 S.B. 180 § 3)

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## Montana

**61-8-208. Pedestrian control signals.** Whenever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" or symbols of a walking person or an upraised palm are in place, the signals indicate as follows:

(1) A pedestrian facing a "Walk" signal or a walking person symbol may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and the operators of all vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to the pedestrian.

(2) A pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a signal exhibiting a flashing or steady "Don't Walk" signal or upraised palm symbol, but a pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the "Walk" signal or walking person symbol shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "Don't Walk" signal or upraised palm symbol is showing. An operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who has partially completed crossing and is proceeding to the sidewalk or safety island.

(3) A pedestrian may not start to cross a roadway in the direction of a steady "Don't Walk" signal or upraised palm symbol.

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**Nebraska**

60-6,124.

Pedestrian-control signals.

Whenever pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words WALK or DONT WALK or exhibiting the symbol of a walking person or an upraised hand are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

- (1) Pedestrians facing a steady WALK indication or a symbol of a walking person may proceed across the roadway in the direction of such signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles; and
- (2) No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of a DONT WALK indication or a symbol of an upraised hand, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her crossing on the WALK or walking person indication shall immediately proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the flashing DONT WALK or flashing upraised hand indication is showing.

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**New Hampshire**

**265:11 Pedestrian Control Signals.** – Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

- I. Walk--Pedestrians facing such steady or flashing signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right of way by the drivers of all vehicles. There shall be no right turn allowed for any vehicle while a steady or flashing walk signal is being displayed.
- II. Don't Walk--No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signals whether steady or flashing, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "Walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island.

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**New Mexico**

**66-7-106. Pedestrian-control signals.** (1978)

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "walk" or "don't walk" are in place:

- A. "walk" indicates that pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by drivers of all vehicles; and
- B. "don't walk" indicates that no pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "walk" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "don't walk" signal is showing.

**History:** 1941 Comp., § 68-2206, enacted by Laws 1953, ch. 139, § 35; 1953 Comp., § 64-16-6; Laws 1969, ch. 169, § 4; recompiled as 1953 Comp., § 64-7-106, by Laws 1978, ch. 35, § 386.

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**New York**

**Vehicle and Traffic**

§ 1112. Pedestrian-control signal indications. Whenever pedestrians are controlled by pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "WALK" or "DON'T WALK", or exhibiting symbols of a walking person or upraised hand, such signals shall indicate and apply to pedestrians as follows:

(a) Steady WALK or walking person. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right of way by other traffic.

(b) Flashing DON'T WALK or upraised hand. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrians who have partially completed their crossing on the WALK or walking person signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the flashing DON'T WALK or upraised hand signal is showing.

(c) Steady DON'T WALK or upraised hand. No pedestrians shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrians who have partially completed their crossing on the WALK or flashing DON'T WALK signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the steady DON'T WALK signal is showing.

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**North Carolina**

§ 20-172. Pedestrians subject to traffic-control signals.

(a) The Board of Transportation, with reference to State highways, and local authorities, with reference to highways under their jurisdiction, are hereby authorized to erect or install, at intersections or other appropriate places, special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words or symbols "WALK" or "DON'T WALK" as a part of a system of traffic-control signals or devices.

(b) Whenever special pedestrian-control signals are in place, such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) WALK. - Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the highway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) DON'T WALK. - No pedestrian shall start to cross the highway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "WALK" signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the "DON'T WALK" signal is showing.

(c) Where a system of traffic-control signals or devices does not include special pedestrian-control signals, pedestrians shall be subject to the vehicular traffic-control signals or devices as they apply to pedestrian traffic.

(d) At places without traffic-control signals or devices, pedestrians shall be accorded the privileges and shall be subject to the restrictions stated in Part 11 of this Article. (1937, c.

407, s. 133; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; c. 1330, s. 31; 1987, c. 125.)

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**Ohio****4511.14 Special pedestrian control signals.**

Whenever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "walk" or "don't walk," or the symbol of a walking person or an upraised palm are in place, such signals shall indicate the following instructions:

(A) A steady walking person signal indication, which symbolizes "walk," means that a pedestrian facing the signal indication is permitted to start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, possibly in conflict with turning vehicles. The pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that the walking person signal indication is first shown.

(B) A flashing upraised hand signal indication, which symbolizes "don't walk," means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on a steady walking person signal indication shall proceed to the far side of the traveled way of the street or highway, unless otherwise directed by a traffic control device to proceed only to the median of a divided highway or only to some other island or pedestrian refuge area.

(C) A steady upraised hand signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not enter the roadway in the direction of the signal indication.

(D) Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate the continued use of pedestrian control signals utilizing the word "wait" if those signals were installed prior to March 28, 1985.

(E) A flashing walking person signal indication has no meaning and shall not be used.

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## Oregon

As I knew but copied and pasted the ORS's below. State law allows peds to finish the signalized crossing but not to enter the roadway when the ped signal is flashing don't walk, is in a countdown manor or displays a solid hand. The Oregon Drivers Manual has similar wording. Per the MUTCD, the indication color is also a key aspect here too (Section 4E.04). White is reserved for Walking. Portland Orange is for FDW or steady Don't Walk. This same aspect also applies at features such as Pedestrian Hybrid Signals. I could not find anything else that would allow a ped to enter a cross walk under those conditions at a signalized crosswalk.

**814.010 Appropriate responses to traffic control devices.** This section establishes appropriate pedestrian responses to specific traffic control devices for purposes of ORS 814.020 ...

(6) When a pedestrian control signal showing the words "Walk" and "Wait" or "Don't Walk" or any other pedestrian symbol approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission under ORS 810.200 and 810.210 for the purpose of controlling pedestrian crossing is in place, the signal indicates and applies as follows:

(a) If a pedestrian is facing a "Walk" signal or other symbol approved under ORS 810.200 and 810.210 indicating that the pedestrian may proceed, the pedestrian may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal.

(b) A pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a signal showing a "Wait" or "Don't Walk" or any other symbol approved under ORS 810.200 and 810.210 indicating that the pedestrian may not proceed. A pedestrian who has started crossing a roadway on a signal showing "Walk" or any other approved symbol to proceed shall proceed with dispatch to a sidewalk or safety island while a signal is showing "Wait" or "Don't Walk" or any other approved symbol indicating not to proceed. [1983 c.338 §553; 1985 c.16 §282]

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**Pennsylvania** see below

**South Carolina** see below

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**West Virginia**

§17C-3-6. Pedestrian walk and wait signals; penalty.

(a) Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Wait" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) Walk. -- Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) Wait. -- No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his or her crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the wait signal is showing.

(b) Any person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars; upon a second conviction within one year thereafter, shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars; and upon a third or subsequent conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars

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**Wisconsin****346.23 Crossing controlled intersection or crosswalk.**

346.23(1)(1) At an intersection or crosswalk where traffic is controlled by traffic control signals or by a traffic officer, the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian, or to a person who is riding a bicycle or electric personal assistive mobility device in a manner which is consistent with the safe use of the crosswalk by pedestrians, who has started to cross the highway on a green signal or a pedestrian signal authorizing crossing and in all other cases pedestrians, bicyclists, and riders of electric personal assistive mobility devices shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully proceeding directly ahead on a green signal. No operator of a vehicle proceeding ahead on a green signal may begin a turn at a controlled intersection or crosswalk when a pedestrian, bicyclist, or rider of an electric personal assistive mobility device crossing in the crosswalk on a green signal or a pedestrian signal authorizing crossing would be endangered or interfered with in any way. The rules stated in this subsection are modified at intersections or crosswalks on divided highways or highways provided with safety zones in the manner and to the extent stated in sub. (2).

[346.23\(2\) \(2\) At intersections or crosswalks on divided highways or highways provided with safety zones where traffic is controlled by traffic control signals or by a traffic officer, the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian, bicyclist, or rider of an electric personal assistive mobility device who has started to cross the roadway either from the near curb or shoulder or from the center dividing strip or a safety zone with the green signal or a pedestrian signal authorizing crossing in the favor of the pedestrian, bicyclist, or rider of an electric personal assistive mobility device.](#)

§ 3113. **Pedestrian-control signals.**

(a) **General rule.**--Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting words or symbols are in place, the signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) **Word "Walk" or walking person symbol.**--Pedestrians facing the signal should proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) **Phrase "Don't Walk" or upraised hand symbol.**--Pedestrians should not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the "Walk" signal should proceed to a sidewalk or safety zone while the "Don't Walk" signal is showing.

(3) **Flashing "Walk".**--Pedestrians facing the signal are cautioned that there is possible hazard from turning vehicles, but pedestrians may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(4) **Flashing "Don't Walk" Signal.**--Pedestrians should not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partly completed crossing during the "Walk" signal should proceed to a sidewalk or safety zone, and all drivers of vehicles shall yield to the pedestrian.

From the Publication 46, page 4-10:

## Flashing Don't Walk Indication

### Meaning

A flashing UPRAISED HAND (symbolizing DONT WALK) signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on a steady WALKING PERSON (symbolizing WALK) signal indication shall proceed to the far side of the traveled way of the street or highway, unless otherwise directed by a traffic control device to proceed only to the median of a divided highway or only to some other island or pedestrian refuge area.

## South Carolina

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vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(4) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in Section 56-5-3110, pedestrians facing a steady circular red or red arrow signal alone shall not enter the roadway.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a driver of a motorcycle or moped, or a bicycle rider, approaches an intersection that is controlled by a traffic-control device, the driver may proceed through the intersection on a steady red light only if the driver or rider, as the case may be:

(a) comes to a full and complete stop at the intersection for one hundred twenty seconds; and

(b) exercises due care as provided by law, otherwise treats the traffic control device as a stop sign, and determines it is safe to proceed.

HISTORY: 1962 Code § 46-306; 1952 Code § 46-306; 1949 (46) 466; 1975 (59) 76; 1977 Act No. 11; 1977 Act No. 149 § 5; 2008 Act No. 240, § 1, eff May 27, 2008.

Effect of Amendment

The 2008 amendment added paragraph (C)(5) relating to motorcycle and moped drivers and bicycle riders, and changed the paragraph designators throughout.

**SECTION 56-5-990. Pedestrian "walk" and "wait" signals.**

Whenever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Wait" are in place such signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) "Walk" indicates that a pedestrian facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right of way by the drivers of all vehicles; and

(2) "Wait" indicates that no pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island while the wait signal is showing.

HISTORY: 1962 Code § 46-308; 1952 Code § 46-308; 1949 (46) 466.