

DRIVING SAFETY THE MOVE OVER LAW

SAFELY **MOVE OVER**

It's the law.

Keep Our Emergency
Workers & First
Responders **SAFE**
Along the Roadside

- 1 Always Give Your Full Time and Attention While Driving
- 2 SLOW Down and Give the Roadside Emergency Workers as Much of a Safety Cushion as Possible
- 3 Signal Your Lane Change and Move Over Into the Next Lane in the Same Direction Only if Able to Do So Safely

The law requires drivers approaching from the rear of an emergency vehicle, tow truck, service vehicle, or waste/recycling collection vehicle using visual signals while stopped on a highway to, if possible, make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency or service vehicle.

This movement should only be done if another lane in the same direction is available and the move can be made safely and without impeding other traffic. If moving to another lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle is not possible, the law requires drivers to slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

The intent of the "Move Over" law is to provide an extra barrier of safety for police officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, tow truck drivers and service workers working along Maryland roads. It is vital that drivers stay alert for police, fire/EMS, tow truck operators, and other service personnel stopped along the road and move away from them or slow down as they pass by the traffic stop or incident scene.

The Move Over Law applies when drivers are approaching any stopped, standing, or parked vehicle on a highway that is using a visual signal and is a:

- police, fire/EMS or rescue vehicle of local, state or federal agencies or volunteer fire/rescue companies;
- tow truck;
- commercial vehicle providing emergency maintenance to a disabled vehicle;
- service vehicle of local, state or federal agencies, public service companies, or vehicles performing government functions under a contract with any of those governments; and
- waste or recycling collection vehicles.

Move Over Law Fines:

- Violation of the "Move Over" law is a primary offense with a fine of \$110 and 1 point.
- If the violation contributes to a traffic crash, the fine is \$150 and 3 points.
- If the violation contributes to a traffic crash resulting in death
- or serious injury, the fine is \$750 and 3 points.



Adapted with permission from Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) <https://www.roads.maryland.gov/pages/release.aspx?newsId=3255>

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