## **Environmental Health and Safety**

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# Parking Lot Safety

To reduce the risk of incidents, it is necessary to learn of potential hazards in parking lots.

The following advice will help strengthen your awareness as both a driver and a pedestrian. Staying alert is a crucial factor in keeping yourself and others safe.

### **Pedestrian Safety**

- Remember that the pedestrian usually can see a vehicle before the vehicle can see them.
- When possible, use sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Always look both ways before crossing a parking lot.
- Protect yourself from predators by staying aware of your surroundings, especially at night and in parking garages.
- In vulnerable locations, carry protection such as pepper spray, alarm, whistle, etc.
- If you witness any suspicious activity, be sure to report to security personnel immediately.

#### Resources

How to Park Safely

Pedestrian Safety Tips

Crime Prevention

**Tips for Drivers** 

#### **Driver Safety**

- The speed limit in parking lots is 10 mph or less depending on circumstances.
- Avoid driving in reverse. More accidents happen when driving in reverse, due to lack of visibility.
- Avoid parking at an angle, or next to other cars that are parked at an angle.
- When backing out of a space, constantly look in all directions and check all of your mirrors for pedestrians and other vehicles.
- Report hazards, such as unsafe designs of a parking lot.



Created by R. Benjamin