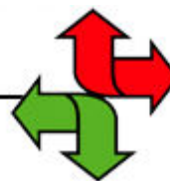


Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)



Home Page

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways

What's New

UPDATED December 11, 2019

Interim Approval 22 – Red-Colored Pavement for Transit Lanes

On December 4, 2019, the FHWA issued [Interim Approval 22](#) allowing the optional use of Red-Colored Pavement in transit lanes. Jurisdictions wishing to use Red-Colored Pavement in transit lanes under this Interim Approval must submit a written request to the FHWA.

Check out the [MUTCD News Feed](#) for up-to-the-minute information on new items such as Interim Approvals, Official Interpretations, Policy Statements, Federal Register notices—everything you need to make the most of your MUTCD and keep road users on the move!

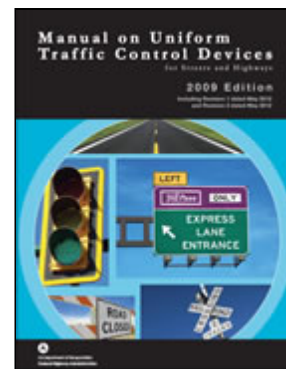
Current Edition of Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways

The **Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways**, or **MUTCD** defines the standards used by road managers nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all public streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel. The MUTCD is published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under [23 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\), Part 655, Subpart F](#).

The MUTCD, which has been administered by the FHWA since 1971, is a compilation of national standards for all traffic control devices, including road markings, highway signs, and traffic signals. It is updated periodically to accommodate the nation's changing transportation needs and address new safety technologies, traffic control tools, and traffic management techniques.

On December 16, 2009 a final rule adopting the 2009 Edition of the MUTCD was published in the Federal Register with an effective date of January 15, 2010. States must adopt the 2009 National MUTCD as their legal State standard for traffic control devices within two years from the effective date. The Federal Register notice, which provides detailed discussion of the FHWA's decisions on major changes from the 2003 edition, can be viewed at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-28322.pdf> (PDF, 716KB).

FHWA does not print copies of the MUTCD. National organizations have partnered and printed hard copies of the MUTCD. These hard copies are available for sale. Go to [ATSSA](#), [ITE](#), [AASHTO](#), or [IMSA](#) to get sales information.



[Current Edition of MUTCD](#)

On May 14, 2012 final rules adopting Revisions 1 and 2 of the 2009, MUTCD were published in the Federal Register with an effective date of June 13, 2012. The Federal Register notices, which provide detailed discussions of the FHWA's decisions, can be viewed at:

- **Revision 1 - National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Revision; Final Rule [FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2010-0170]** ([PDF 229KB](#), [HTML](#))
- **Revision 2 - National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Revision; Final Rule [FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2010-0159]** ([PDF 242KB](#), [HTML](#))

The PDF version of the [2009 MUTCD with Revision Numbers 1 and 2 incorporated, dated May 2012](#) is the most current edition of the official FHWA publication.

Your MUTCD — Guiding You for Over 80 Years

On November 7, 2015, the U.S. celebrated [80th birthday of the MUTCD](#). Whenever you see an easy-to-read sign, a bright edgeline marking on a foggy night, the countdown timer at a crosswalk, or a well-placed bike lane, take a moment to reflect on the more than eighty years of progress and innovation that the MUTCD embodies. This progress has resulted in safer, more efficient travel on our Nation's roads. Over the years, the MUTCD has unknowingly become the traveler's best friend and silent companion, guiding us on our way along the streets, bikeways, back roads, and highways. As the direct means of communication with the traveler, traffic control devices speak to us softly, yet effectively and authoritatively. From glass "cat's-eye" reflectors to glass beads to microprismatic sheeting, nighttime sign visibility has advanced significantly. Active devices at rail crossings save lives by giving us a positive message about train traffic. And countdown timers on pedestrian signals help us cross a busy street. So the next time you hit the pavement, the path, or the pedals, you can be sure that the MUTCD, through our dedicated professionals who make complex decisions on what devices to install, will help you get where you want to go safely, efficiently, and comfortably! The MUTCD...it's all about *you*!



PDF files can be viewed with the [Acrobat® Reader®](#)

