

Highway-Rail Grade Crossing

**NHTSA School Bus Driver
In-Service Safety Series**



Statistics

- ◆ Approximately 268,000 highway-rail and pedestrian crossings/year in U.S.
- ◆ Most highway traffic fatalities occur within 25 miles of home
- ◆ In U.S., a train collides with a vehicle or a person once every 100 minutes
- ◆ More people die in highway-rail crossings than in commercial airline crashes

Remember

- ◆ Always expect a train
- ◆ Judging speed and distance is difficult
- ◆ Never try to beat a train
- ◆ Obey crossing signals
- ◆ Watch for multiple sets of tracks

What Not to Do at Crossing

- ◆ Never stop on tracks
- ◆ Never stop within 15 feet of tracks
- ◆ Never try to back up once you're on tracks
- ◆ Never change gears on tracks
- ◆ Never pass on tracks

Summary

- ◆ You can't be too careful
- ◆ Do not short-cut the procedures
- ◆ Use the quiet signal
- ◆ Be familiar with local laws/procedures