

FLEET SAFETY

Fleet Safety's offices will be closed
on Monday, February 16
for Presidents Day.



"Move-Over" Act

Senate, No. 2103: *An Act Relative to Operating a Motor Vehicle When Approaching Stationary Emergency Vehicles.*

The **Move-Over Act** aims to improve roadside safety for emergency workers and first responders. Forty-four states have similar laws that pay tribute to police officers, firefighters, emergency medical services and tow truck drivers.

This law requires drivers to **clear the right-hand lane** when approaching any stationary emergency, recovery, or highway maintenance vehicle, signaling with authorized flashing emergency lights.

DEFINITIONS

- **Emergency Vehicle** - Any vehicle that is designated and authorized to respond to an emergency. Some examples include police and security, fire and rescue, medical civil emergency, and recovery.
- **Recovery Vehicle** - A truck that is specifically designed for towing a disabled vehicle or a combination of vehicles.
- **Highway Maintenance Vehicle** - A vehicle that is owned or operated by the Department of Transportation, and is used for the maintenance of highways and roadways.

Drivers should only make a lane change if on a highway with **more than 2 lanes** traveling in the same direction, and **only if it is safe to do so**. If the volume of vehicles on the roadway does not allow for a safe lane shift, then motorists are

required to **reduce their speed** to a reasonable and safe level for road conditions.

If drivers do not comply with these new safety regulations, they could be fined up to \$100!

Don't Transport any hazardous materials?..... It's best to double check

Many companies transport hazardous materials without even realizing it. Companies who unwittingly transport hazmat are mostly contractors or private carriers transporting their own goods, but it could also happen to a common carrier.

What you can do to help prevent this:

1. Conduct a review of all items you transport and receive
2. Include an on-site review of all service trucks and their equipment
3. Check for gasoline cans, cylinders, paints adhesives, corrosives, and so forth
4. Walk your warehouse or dock and look for any diamond on point hazardous materials stickers on packages
5. Check shipping documents when items are received to ensure nothing is identified as hazardous
6. If you receive hazardous materials, but do not ship them, your employees are still required to undergo basic awareness DOT hazmat training.

Keep in mind that there is nothing to fear in transporting hazardous materials provided all the proper guidelines are being adhered to. The danger and potential liability come into play when transporting a hazardous material without knowledge that you are doing so. If you would like assistance in assessing your company's current hazmat status, please contact your Fleet Safety representative at your earliest convenience.

■ Fleet Safety Services 12 Harvard St. Worcester, MA 01609

Sincerely,

Denise Rosario
Fleet Safety