

Why a Roundabout?



Safety

Roundabouts offer improved safety over other types of intersections because roundabouts have fewer conflict points, slower speeds, and easier decision making.

When compared to a signal, studies show that roundabouts provide:

- 90% reduction in fatal crashes,
- 75% reduction in injury crashes,
- 30-40% reduction in pedestrian crashes, and
- 10% reduction in bicycle crashes

Roundabouts improve pedestrian safety by offering two simple crossings of one-way traffic that is moving at much slower speeds. (typically less than 15-20 mph)

Capacity

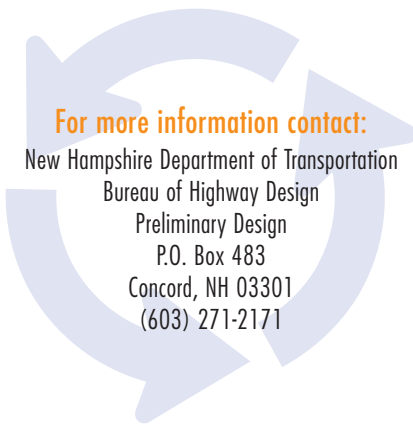
Roundabouts typically carry about 30% more vehicles than similarly sized signalized intersections during peak flow conditions. During off-peak conditions, roundabouts cause almost no delay, but traffic signals can cause delay to side street and left-turning traffic from the major street. Increased capacity at roundabouts is due to the continuously flowing nature of yielding only until a gap is available, versus waiting for your turn at a signal.

Operation

Roundabout operation is simple. They are easy to drive, just yield, look left and turn right. And remember once in the roundabout you have the right-of-way.

Roundabouts

- ...less congestion,
- less frustration,
- less pollution,
- less expense,
- fewer and less severe traffic collisions,
- fewer pedestrian and driver injuries...

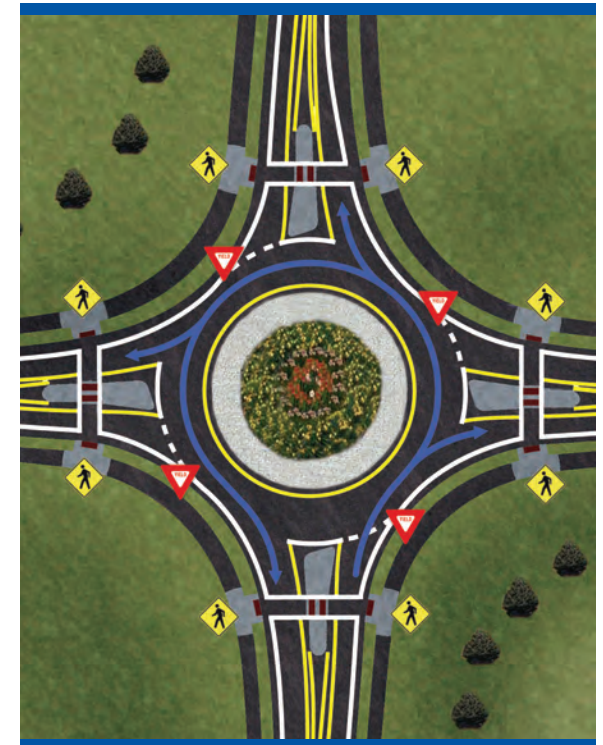


For more information contact:

New Hampshire Department of Transportation
 Bureau of Highway Design
 Preliminary Design
 P.O. Box 483
 Concord, NH 03301
 (603) 271-2171

SINGLE-LANE ROUNDABOUT

Information for Motorists, Bicyclists and Pedestrians



Driving Safely Through a Single Lane Roundabout

Approaching and Entering



- **Slow down** when approaching. Roundabouts are designed for speeds of 15-20 mph.



- Yield before you enter. Remember to be prepared to stop. **Circulating traffic has the right-of-way.** Look to the left for traffic in the roundabout. Wait for a gap in traffic and enter the roundabout.



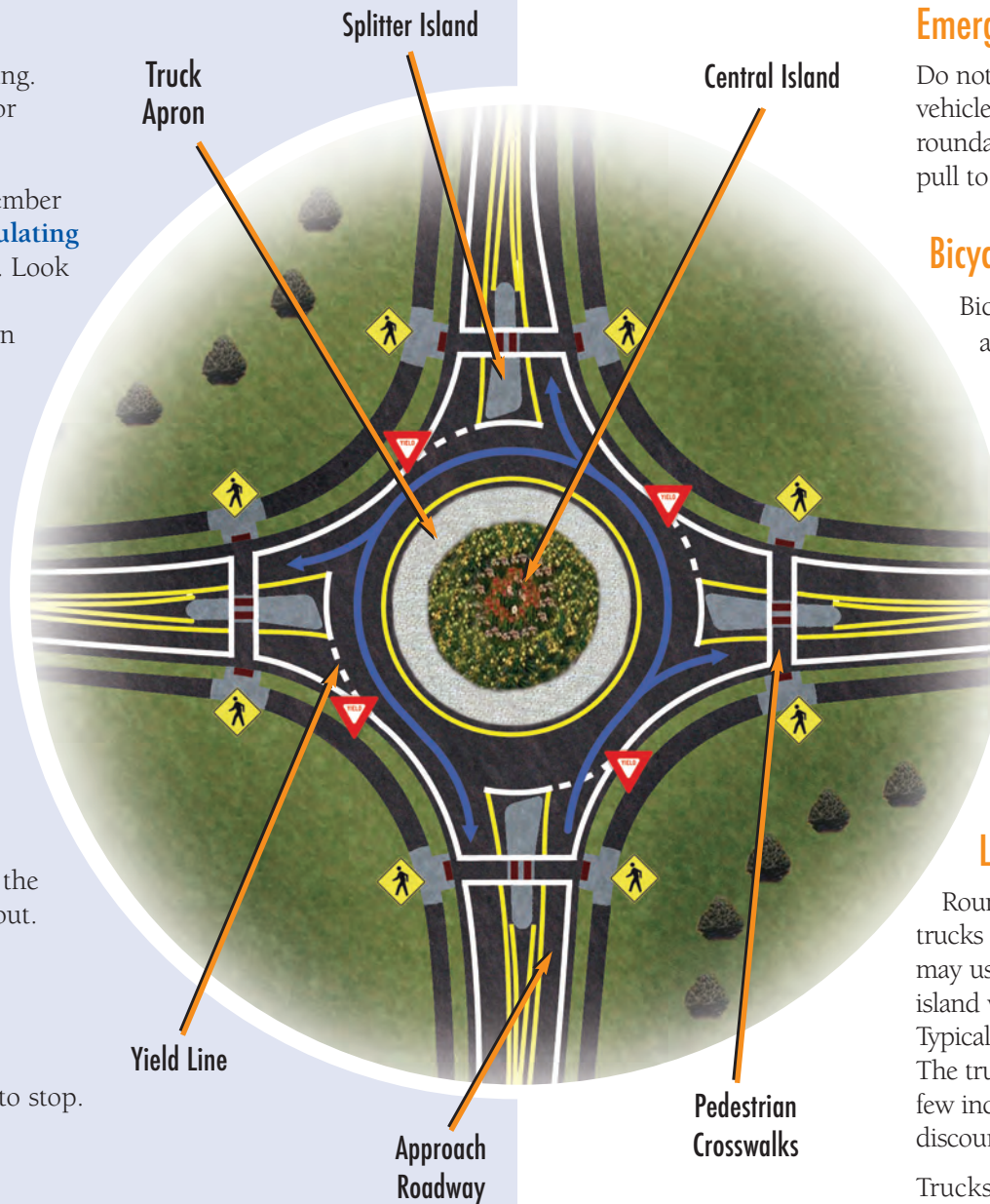
- Enter, once in the roundabout, do not stop. Do not overtake vehicles slightly ahead of you, as they may be exiting.



- Stop for pedestrians as you approach and enter.

Exiting the Roundabout

- Once you have entered, proceed counterclockwise to your exit point. **You** have the right-of-way in the roundabout.
- As you approach your exit, use your **right turn signal.**
- Watch for pedestrians in the crosswalks and be prepared to stop.
- Exit the roundabout.



Emergency Vehicles

Do not enter the roundabout when emergency vehicles are approaching - pull to the side. If in the roundabout, immediately exit the roundabout and pull to the side. **Never stop in the roundabout.**

Bicyclists

Bicyclists have the option to function as a vehicle or pedestrian when using a roundabout. When acting as a vehicle, they will follow the same rules as motorists. **Vehicles should never overtake a bicyclist acting as a vehicle in the roundabout.**

Pedestrians

Motorists must yield to pedestrians when entering and exiting a roundabout. Pedestrians will utilize crosswalks and splitter islands to cross each leg of the roundabout.

Large Trucks

Roundabouts are designed to accommodate fire trucks and large tractor trailer vehicles. Large trucks may use the raised truck apron around the central island while going through the roundabout. Typically the trailer rides up onto the truck apron. The truck apron, with its rough surface is raised a few inches higher than the driving pavement to discourage cars from using it.

Trucks should follow the same rules for entering and exiting as other motorists.