

Phi's Tips on Avoiding Hitting Deer



- Be vigilant in early morning and evening hours, the most active time for deer.
- When you see deer crossing and speed limit signs, slow it down..
- When you see one deer, look for another one — deer seldom run alone.
- To frighten a deer away, blow your horn with one long blast.
- Be aware that headlights can confuse a deer and cause it to freeze.
- Brake firmly and then swerve if you need to in order to avoid hitting the deer. Always try to swerve within the lane.
- If your vehicle strikes a deer, stay in your vehicle and contact law enforcement. Do not touch the animal if it is still alive.
- Try to avoid rural roads and poorly lit areas.
- Be particularly vigilant when driving through areas with high foliage or low hanging branches on the roadside.
- Reduce your speed, and don't overdrive your lights. The most common remark people make after they've been in a deer collision is that the animal "came out of nowhere."
- Use high beam headlights as much as possible to light the sides of the roadway.
- Do not ride motorcycles in areas with high deer populations. Riding a motorcycle leaves you much more vulnerable to serious injury in an accident than does driving a car.
- If you do hit a deer, stay in your car until help arrives. If the deer is still alive, it may be stunned and could become very aggressive if aroused.