



Drivers/Cyclists:

- Be aware of pedestrians at all times



Pedestrians:

- Be alert at traffic control signals and listen for the locator tone. The tone will automatically adjust to ambient sound levels
- Press and hold the pushbutton for **at least 5 seconds** or until you hear a “pop” sound.
- Do not start your crossing until you hear the audible tone, feel the pushbutton vibrate and/or see the “WALK” sign.
- Do not start your crossing if the “DON’T WALK” tone and/or symbol begins to flash or is solid.

Other brochures in this series include:

- Advanced Traffic Management System
- Community Safety Zones
- Left Turn Traffic Signals
- Modern Roundabouts
- Pedestrian Safety
- Pedestrian Signals
- Road Safety
- Speed Control
- Traffic Control Signals and Stop Signs
- Traffic Signs

Contact us

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If this brochure is required in an accessible format, please contact
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Accessible Pedestrian Signals



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What is an Accessible Pedestrian Signal?

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) provide greater mobility to persons with disabilities and accessibility needs by relaying non-visual information when crossing at signalized intersections through the use of:

- audible tones
- verbal speech messages
- vibrating surfaces
- tactile messages
- or any combination of these methods

The devices are intended to be used as a supplement to existing orientation and mobility techniques to assist with street crossings.



How does an APS work?

At locations where an APS is installed, a pedestrian button must be **pressed and continuously held for at least five (5) seconds** to properly activate the audible tones for the next available "Walk" signal.

Pedestrians will hear a 'pop' sound from the pedestrian pushbutton to confirm that the audible sounds will be activated. If the button is not held down for at least five (5) seconds, a 'pop' will not be heard and the audible tone will not be activated.

Pushbuttons are also equipped with a raised tactile arrow that points in the direction of the pedestrian crossing. This arrow vibrates when the APS is activated.

What does an APS sound like?

For the **north/south** direction, a '**Cuckoo**' sound is emitted during the display of the 'WALK' symbol. For the east/west direction, a '**Canadian Melody**' will be heard.

In either direction, the sound will be followed by a pedestrian clearance tone during the flashing 'DON'T WALK' symbol to indicate the signal is about to change. In addition, the pushbuttons are equipped with a continuous '**Locator Tone**' to assist pedestrians in finding the buttons.

Where are APS installed and how can I request one?

APS are installed at selected signalized intersections where pedestrian "Walk" and "Don't Walk" displays are used. Existing traffic control signals are retro-fitted to accommodate the devices on request, subject to available funding. Locations are prioritized in consultation with the local chapter of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Requests for Accessible Pedestrian Signals may be made directly to the Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee **at 905-668-7711, ext. 2009 or email accessibility@durham.ca**

For more information on Accessible Pedestrian Signals, please visit our web-site at durham.ca/works/ and click the link to "Traffic".

