



URNS AND CURVES

THE STATISTICS

STAT 1: Between 2011-2015, 25.3% of fatal rollover accidents were log trucks.

STAT 2: The average age of a log truck involved in an accident is 13 years old.

STAT 3: Most log truck accidents occur in June and July.

STAT 4: Most log truck accidents occur between 10 and 11AM.

STAT 5: Between 2007-2015, there were 576 fatal log truck accidents reported.

STAT 6: Between 2007-2016, 11,014 injury causing property damage accidents caused by log trucks.

SPEED CAUSES ROLLOVERS

Tips on preventing accidents:

Make sure You...

- Reduce speed when turning or on curves to reduce rollover risk.
- Make turns from the appropriate lane.
- Avoid shoulders, tires may sink into shoulder and cause a rollover.
- Use your turn signal 500 ft. prior to the turn on the open road, 100 ft. in the city, turn the signal OFF when the turn is complete.
- Be careful that your tracking path does not cause the vehicle or trailer to interfere with pedestrians, other vehicles, or stationary objects.

Additional Reminders:

- Be aware that log trucks have a high center of gravity and turning too quickly can cause rollovers!
- Ensure the fifth wheel is adequately lubricated on tractor-trailers.
- Only start turning when there is enough time for the rear of your vehicle to clear the intersection without forcing opposing drivers to slow down or swerve.
- Maintain the speeds below the advisory speed, these speeds are for automobiles.

NEGOTIATING TURNS AND CURVES

Fluid Motion:

Speed and steering must be fluid to successfully handle a turn or curve.

Reduce Speed:

The way to best take a corner is to greatly reduce speed, prior to entering a cornering situation.

While Straight:

The vehicle must be slowed down while it is straight before entering the curve.

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Double Back:

If you are on the highway and suddenly realize your turn off is coming up sooner than expected, do not swing to catch the exit. Slow the vehicle down and prepare to take the next exit ramp. Then double back to your desired destination.

Ensure Clearance:

If you are driving a load with overhang ensure it is not going to strike, cars, pedestrians, or other objects.

Trailer Tracking:

Ensure the trailer is tracking safely, staying on the road and in the appropriate lane.

Off-Tracking – Compensate More:

For a left turn, don't cut your wheel until you're over halfway through the intersection.

Watch your Mirrors:

While you complete your turns if you have doubts, stop, get out and look. Don't be too proud to check things out.

TURNING LEFT AND RIGHT

Turning Right:

Drivers should – Move to the right lane well in advance, so they are positioned to make a safe turn.

Remember when turning right – Keep the rear of the vehicle to the right to block other vehicles from passing on the right.

Wait when turning right – If moving into other lanes, you may have to wait for other vehicles to clear, and then turn slowly.

Turning Left:

Left hand turns – Only start turning when there is enough time for the rear of your vehicle to clear the intersection without forcing opposing drivers to slow down or swerve.

They may or may not see you – Do not assume opposing drivers will see you.

After making the turn – Once you made a left hand turn into a two-lane road put your blinker on to merge back into the right lane.

COMMON DRIVER FAULTS

Avoid these common driving errors when steering to prevent turn and curve accidents!

1. Gripping the steering too tightly.
2. Removing both hands from the steering wheel.
3. Removing either hand from the steering wheel for an unnecessarily long time (changing gears).
4. Allowing hands to drop to the lower half of the steering wheel.
5. Turning the steering wheel too much or too little or maintaining a turn too long.

Name: _____

Date: _____

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