



Information on Speed Humps/Bumps



*How can I get a speed hump/bump on my street?
Aren't speed humps safe?
Don't speed humps reduce speeds on a street?*

What is a Speed Hump or Bump?

Speed Humps are raised sections of pavement across the travel way of the road and are approximately 3 to 4 inches high. They are an elongation shape. The intended purpose of a speed hump is to attempt to reduce speeds by vertically deflecting the wheel and frame of a vehicle. The occupants experience an uncomfortable sensation if the vehicle travels at speeds greater than the design of the speed hump. Speed Bumps are raised sections of pavement commonly found in parking lots. They are half moon shaped and cause deflection at any speed.

Advantages of Speed Humps

- Can reduce vehicle speeds near the speed hump
- Can reduce vehicle volumes
- No restrictions to on-street parking

Disadvantages of Speed Humps

- Increased noise from vehicles that transverse the speed humps day and night
- Motorists may drive on sidewalks or through yards to avoid the speed humps
- Traffic may divert to previously quiet parallel streets in neighborhood to avoid the speed humps
- Fire, Ambulance, and Police service response times increase with each speed hump
- Speed humps interfere with street repaving, decreasing the effectiveness of both the speed hump and the new pavement
- Speed humps can affect drainage, blocking the flow of water and can cause flooding problems
- Speed humps require signing and striping which some residents consider unattractive.
- Speed humps increase vehicle emissions due to increased deceleration and acceleration
- Speed humps conflict with school and transit bus operations
- Speed humps present a hazard to bicyclists and motorcyclists
- Speed humps are an attractive nuisance as they are used by skateboards as ramps
- Speeds tend to increase between the speed humps as drivers attempt to make up time for slowing down over the speed humps

Traffic Calming

Beaufort County uses various methods to address speeding within neighborhoods. Radar Speed Trailers can be scheduled through the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office to assist with educating motorists of the posted speed. Beaufort County is in development of a traffic-calming program that is neighborhood driven in order to assist citizens in addressing these types of issues in neighborhoods.

Want More Information?

This flyer is for general purposes only. For more information, please contact the Beaufort County Traffic & Transportation Engineering Department at (843) 255-2940 or [click here](#)

NOTE: The **MUTCD** is used throughout the country as the standard by which traffic control decisions are made. The complete **MUTCD** can be found at: http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2009r1r2/pdf_index.htm