



# Information on School Zones



*Why are some school zones 15 MPH and others 25 MPH? Why do some have flashers and others do not? How do I get a crossing guard? Why are some school signs yellow and others yellow-green? Are school zones in effect all day?*

## School Zone and School Crossing Zones

**School Zones** are considered the frontage of school that have access to the adjacent street that is not fenced or blocked off. **School Crossing Zones** are locations away from the school frontage where school aged pedestrian need to cross the street at non-controlled locations.

## Signage for School Zones and School Crossing Zones

Beaufort County signs all **School Zones** and **School Crossing Zones** in accordance with the **Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)**. Each zone is marked with a SCHOOL ZONE sign (newer signs will have AHEAD below the sign). If a speed reduction is required, a SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT 15 or 25 is posted. At each uncontrolled crosswalk, a SCHOOL CROSSING sign (newer signs will have a downward arrow) will be placed at the crosswalk. At the end of each zone, an END SCHOOL ZONE or speed limit sign will be placed.

## Time School Zones are in Effect.

**School Zones** and **School Crossing Zones** are in effect from 30 minutes prior to the start of the education day until 30 minutes after the education day ends. All **School Zones** and **School Crossing Zones** with speed reductions have the times on the signs or are in effect during the periods the flasher is active. Beaufort County and SCDOT signs the zone to be in effect from approximately 30 minutes prior to school to about 15 minutes after school starts in the AM period and has them in effect from about 15 minutes before school lets out to approximately 30 minutes after school lets out in the PM period.

## Yellow vs. fluorescent Yellow-Green School signs

A recent change in the **MUTCD** requires for the use of more visible Fluorescent Yellow-Green (FYG) colored signs. Beaufort County has adopted this newer FYG color as our standard and is changing the older yellow signs to the newer FYG color, as the older signs need replacing.

## Flashers

Flashers are installed on roadways with multiple lanes and normal speeds are over 35 miles per hour. Beaufort County is working with the school district and SCDOT to have flashers installed with the construction of newer schools. Flashers in areas with older schools are being installed as funds permit.

## 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](http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2009r1r2/pdf_index.htm)

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