



how to drive a **ROUNDABOUT**

What is a **roundabout**?

Roundabouts are unsignalized circular intersections designed to maximize safety and minimize delay. Traffic circulates counter-clockwise around the central island. Entering vehicles must yield to all traffic already in the roundabout.

Roundabout **benefits**

- ▶ Reduces injury accidents by 75% and fatal accidents by 90%.
- ▶ Overall reduction of accidents by 30 to 40% since their inception in North America.
- ▶ Increases efficient traffic flow up to 50%.
- ▶ Benefits the environment by reducing emissions.
- ▶ Decreases fuel consumption by as much as 30%.
- ▶ Costs less than traffic signals and does not require expensive equipment or maintenance.

Please **drive safely**

Since roundabouts are fairly new to our area, please expect a short adjustment period as drivers get used to driving them.

Questions, comments or concerns?

Contact us in whichever way is most convenient.



Online
www.co.dakota.mn.us



Call
Transportation Dept. at (952) 891-7100



Driving in circles can be a good thing, if it means you get where you want to go **quicker and safer**.

That's why Dakota County has begun incorporating roundabouts into our road network.



Transportation Department
14955 Galaxie Avenue
Apple Valley, MN 55124
www.co.dakota.mn.us

Driving a Roundabout **Turn ▶ by ▶ Turn**



Driving a Roundabout

Slow down approaching the roundabout.
Observe all signs and obey speed limits.
Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks.
Enter when there is a safe gap in traffic.
Give large vehicles plenty of space.



Large Vehicles

The raised colored area around the center island, known as a "truck apron," provides extra space for large trucks.



Pedestrians

Never cross to the center of a roundabout.
Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks, but always be aware of vehicles.
Watch for oncoming traffic before entering the crosswalk. Wait for a safe gap and cross.
Cross only at designated crosswalks and use the raised island as a refuge.



Emergency Vehicles

If you have not entered the roundabout, pull over to let the emergency vehicle pass.
If you are already in the roundabout, *do not stop*. Continue to your exit, then pull over to allow the emergency vehicle pass.



Bicycles on Path

Dismount at the sidewalk ramp, and walk your bicycle.
Follow the same rules that apply to pedestrians.



Bicycles on Roadway

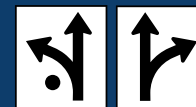
Experienced cyclists travel through the roundabout using the same general rules that apply to motorists.
Once in the roundabout, ride in the middle of the lane so you are more visible; motorists will be less likely to pass you.

Always obey the signs

As you approach the roundabout, obey posted signs and advisory speed limits.



Roundabout ahead, time to slow down.



Guide signs near the entry show the lane choices. Stay in your lane when in the circle.



Yield to all traffic in the roundabout.



Roundabout traffic travels one-way.