



# Kansas LTAP Fact Sheet

A Service of The University of Kansas Transportation Center for Road, Street & Bridge Agencies

## Kansas Intersections Can't See? Don't Go!

By Norm Bowers



Photo by  
Norm Bowers

**Don't go until you can see**  
Many Kansas rural intersections are not signed. When you encounter a rural intersection, approach it slowly if the visibility is restricted. Only proceed through the intersection when you can see the way is clear of cross-traffic. Keep in mind that if your view is restricted so that you cannot see an approaching cross traffic vehicle, the approaching vehicle cannot see you either.

### **Make Sure You Can See**

Even at wide-open intersections, seasonal obstacles like trees, weeds and farm crops can restrict sight distance. Vehicles approaching an intersection may also be hard to see at dawn and dusk.

### **Don't Rely on Dust**

Dust is not a reliable indicator of approaching cross-traffic. Rain and snow reduces dust produced by vehicles. Always assure the way is clear before driving through an intersection.

### **Drive Defensively**

When approaching an intersection, always assume that cross-traffic may not yield the right-of-way.

### **Right-Of-Way Rule at Unsigned Intersections**

When two vehicles approach an intersection from different roads at approximately the same time, the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right.

Almost one-in-four Kansas crash fatalities happens at an intersection.

### **Farmers - You Can Help**

Refrain from planting crops along sight lines near the intersection. Planting crops close to the corner restricts sight distance and makes the road less safe for the travelling public, which includes your family and neighbors. Good and bad examples are shown on the back.



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(Above) This is a **good example** of crops planted to provide better visibility at the intersection.

Crops planted clear of sight lines near the intersection do not limit the visibility of on-coming traffic. This makes the intersection safer.

(Below) This is a **bad example** of crops planted too close to the corner of the intersection. The crops restrict sight distance and make the intersection less safe.

