

# HAWK

Pedestrian Beacon



The **HAWK** *High-intensity Activated crossWalk or Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon* has been accepted in the 2009 Manual on Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for use nationally.

The HAWK was developed by the City of Tucson to increase pedestrian safety at school crossing locations. The device substantially improves motorist stopping behavior as compared to flashing overhead crossing beacons and other devices.

The HAWK may be considered at locations where a full traffic signal would not be appropriate.

### *Use in Ada County*

ACHD turned on its first HAWK pedestrian beacon in August 2008 in Boise, just west of the Cole and Ustick intersection. Additional HAWKs have since been installed and can be found in Boise, Eagle and Meridian.

Several more HAWKs are planned for construction in 2011.



ACHD manages and maintains all traffic and pedestrian signals in Ada County as part of its duties as a countywide highway district.

If you have questions about the HAWK Pedestrian Beacon or other traffic-related questions, please call the ACHD Traffic Services Department at 208.387.6140.



This brochure was produced by the Ada County Highway District (ACHD). Additional hard copies can be obtained by contacting [tellus@achdidaho.org](mailto:tellus@achdidaho.org). It is available in PDF format on the ACHD web site, [www.achdidaho.org](http://www.achdidaho.org).



3775 Adams St., Garden City, ID 83714  
[www.achdidaho.org](http://www.achdidaho.org) | [tellus@achdidaho.org](mailto:tellus@achdidaho.org)  
208.387.6100

To arrange for a translator or other accommodation, contact ACHD at 208.387.6100. Se les recomienda a las personas que necesiten un intérprete o arreglos especiales que llamen a la coordinadora de participación pública, al 208.387.6100.

# HAWK

Pedestrian Beacon  
ada county highway district

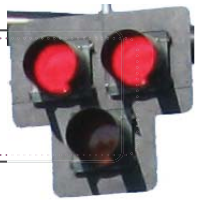


[ A User's Guide for  
Pedestrians & Motorists ]



# HAWK Pedestrian Beacon

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Q: What's it all about?

A: 'HAWK' stands for **H**igh-intensity **A**ctivated **c**ross**W**alk. It's a new type of pedestrian crossing beacon that has proven in several states to increase safety for pedestrians by grabbing the attention of motorists.

ACHD received special permission from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to install its HAWK beacons, which are located in the cities of Boise, Eagle and Meridian.

## Q: How is it different than any other traffic signal?

A: While it looks fairly similar to a traditional signalized pedestrian crossing, the HAWK functions a bit differently. When not in use, it will remain dark. The beacon goes through a sequence of five movements after a pedestrian pushes the button. The HAWK beacon begins flashing yellow to indicate to drivers someone will be using the crosswalk. It then goes to solid yellow like a typical traffic signal, advising drivers to stop if safe to do so. The beacon then turns solid red, requiring drivers to stop at the stop line. Finally, the beacon goes to flashing red, letting drivers know that after coming to a complete stop, they can proceed with caution if the way is clear - the same movement they would make at any other flashing-red signal or beacon. The beacon then returns to a dark state.

Learn how to use the HAWK beacon!

| DRIVERS                               |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| See This                              | Do This  |
| <p>Dark</p>                           | Proceed with caution.  |
| <p>Flashing Yellow Light</p>          | Slow down, prepare to stop.<br>Pedestrian has activated the push button. |
| <p>Steady Yellow Light</p>            | Stop if safe to do so.   |
| <p>Steady Red Light</p>               | <b>Stop; remain stopped.</b><br>Pedestrian in crosswalk.                 |
| <p>Alternating (like RR crossing)</p> | <b>Stop.</b><br>Then proceed with caution if clear.                      |
| <p>Dark</p>                           | Proceed with caution.  |

| PEDESTRIANS          |  |
|----------------------|--|
| See This             | Do This  |
|                      | Push the button to cross.  |
|                      | Wait.  |
|                      | Continue waiting.  |
|                      | Start Crossing.  |
| <p>Flashing Hand</p> | Continue Crossing.<br>If walking, continue. Those who have yet to step off the curb, do not start. |
|                      | Push the button to cross.  |