



# SAFETY MONDAY

## Start of Summer Road Safety

As summer vacation begins in many parts of the nation this month and next, it's important to prepare for an influx of children playing on or near streets on your route. Drivers should be alert to avoid children, cyclists and pedestrians in the neighborhoods they serve. Here are recommendations to help keep you and the families in the neighborhoods where you work safe:

- Always assume that children on bicycles don't see you
- Be aware: People—young and old—may sometimes be talking on their cell phones, texting or listening to music with their headphones on and therefore they may not hear or notice the sound of your truck approaching.
- Keep an eye out for balls or toys in the street and children often running after them.
- Lots of young children are amazed and excited by large trucks like yours. They may try to approach your vehicle without you noticing. Watch for curious children.
- This time of year brings out more people on bicycles. They're hopefully using lanes dedicated for cyclists but, in some cases, they may be sharing the road with you. Practice safe driving and help keep cyclists safe.

Always inspect your vehicle before you head out on your route. Make sure your mirrors are well positioned and that your lights are functioning properly. Avoid backing and use your horn if its necessary to alert someone that you're approaching. Together, we can make our streets safe for everyone.