SAFETY BULLETIN

Seeing Far and Wide gives You the Bigger Picture

Good drivers make a habit of looking ahead a distance they will travel in 12 to 15 seconds and continuously shifting their attention from near then far.

MAKE SURE YOU SEE A BROAD PICTURE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING AHEAD.

Not all potential accident-producing conditions are located in the roadway. Since your goal is to identify conditions that could lead to an accident and be ready to take evasive action, you must have a broader picture. Develop the habit of scanning, at a minimum, from sidewalk to sidewalk while driving in town and from fence line to fence line in highway driving. Near intersections, look as far as practical in either direction.

Pedestrians, animals, children playing on a playground or someone mowing along the road can unexpectedly become a safety threat. Once you recognize the potential hazard, you must track it until it is no longer a problem. For example, the closer you get to the person mowing along the road the greater the potential danger and the closer you need to watch what is happening.

However, once you have passed the mower, that potential problem no longer exists and you can once again scan for other potential hazards.