



AAT NEWS

March 2020

5 RULES OF THE SMITH SYSTEM

- 1. Aim High** The first rule for this method is "Aim high in steering". Staying alert of the dangers and traffic ahead not only avoids rear-end collisions, but it also alerts other drivers behind your vehicle to slow down. The driver should steer and focus their attention high, so as to view the road as whole and not just a few feet ahead.
- 2. The Big Picture** Secondly, "be aware of your surroundings at all times" may seem obvious to say, but distracted drivers are just as dangerous as intoxicated ones. Erratic and angry drivers take up a large portion of the traffic we see daily, so avoid major accidents by noticing how other drivers behave on the road. Having the whole picture means that you are doing your part to keep your vehicle as safe as possible. There are a variety of hazards between your own vehicle and other drivers, and a keen awareness of these dangers will reduce these risks.
- 3. Keep Your Eyes Moving** The third standard of the Smith System asks drivers to remain alert. Consistent eye movement prevents your body from entering the trance state, keeping you alert to every driving condition ahead of you.
- 4. Leave Yourself an Out** The fourth principle of the Smith System states to leave yourself a way out. This means ensure that other drivers do not box you in while selecting their lanes. Do not follow other vehicles too closely, and always anticipate what choices other drivers make.
- 5. Make Sure They See You** The worst thing a driver can do is assume. Assume other drivers can see them, assume other drivers are not dangerous, or even assume that they will just get to their destination safely. The final rule for the Smith System is "Make Sure You Are Seen". This rule prevents accidents by removing assumptions made behind the wheel. As a driver, make sure that other drivers can see you and anticipate your move. If you feel you are coming into another driver's blind spot, use the horn to get their attention.

This N That

DRIVER PARKING. Please park on the north and east sides of the lot. If extra parking is needed, park by the pine trees. Do not park on the south or east sides of the lot.

As a courtesy, plan on arriving 10-15 minutes before the shuttle is scheduled to leave so everyone is ready to leave on time.

Our clients require driver check in calls. PLEASE call in your location twice daily prior to 8:00AM and 1:00PM.

WEX cards are to be used only for fuel for the commercial vehicle.

Do not use for DEF, other fluids, rental car gas, etc.

REAL ID INFORMATION

Beginning **October 1, 2020** all U.S. travelers will need a Real ID-compliant license or other approved form of identification to fly. It's important to note that a Real ID is required only for entering airport security checkpoints and boarding aircrafts, as well as entering any secured federal facility or nuclear plants. You will still need your passport for international flights.

What do you need to get a Real ID in MN?

- ➔ One document proving your identity, date of birth and legal presence in the United States. EX: A passport or birth certificate.
- ➔ Two documents proving Minnesota residency. EX: A valid driver's license, credit card statement or monthly utility bill.
- ➔ Proof of Social Security number. EX: Social Security card or W-2 form.

Note: A recent news broadcast (WCCO) reported that Real ID's are currently taking 8-9 weeks to process once the application is completed. <https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/tag/real-id/>



Need information on the following:
Endorsements, TAB card or a
Passport?
Stop in and see us!



Daylight Savings Time March 8th

According to the National Transportation Safety Board, there is a 17% increase in crashes on our roadways on the Monday following the time change. Most sleep experts recommend a minimum of 7 hours of sleep a night. Plan ahead!

AVAILABILITY

Availability is a foundation piece for AAT being able to accept work and to offer work to our contractors. PLEASE turn your availability (by phone, email or filling out the calendar) so that we can be kept updated and current. Thank you.

Reminder: March is a quarter end month!



*May the leprechauns be near you,
To spread luck along your way.
And may all the Irish angels,
Smile upon your St. Patrick's Day.*

Debra, Scott, Jackie, Penney, Donna, Fred, Kara & Patti