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FDOT Celebrates National Roundabouts Week September 16-20

DeLand, Fla. - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) reminds residents that National Roundabouts Week is September 16–20.

Currently, there are about 20 roundabouts on Florida's highway system and more than 300 on local roads statewide. Learn more about modern roundabouts at <u>fdot.tips/roundabout</u>.

What is a roundabout? Roundabouts are circular intersections that move counterclockwise around a center island and have no traffic signal. Instead, traffic is determined by entry yield control. Vehicles that flow around the intersection have the right of way, while entering traffic yields to pedestrians and traffic already in the intersection.

Since roundabouts only move in one direction, they virtually eliminate head-on and high-speed right-angle collisions. While conventional intersections have 32 conflict points, roundabouts cut that number by 75% to just eight. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) states that roundabouts reduce the number of fatalities by up to 90% and result in an overall 76% reduction in injury crashes.

If you're unfamiliar with using multi-lane roundabouts, the following tips will help you navigate them smoothly as a motorist.

- When entering a roundabout, pay attention to upcoming signage for which lane to use.
- Remember to yield and check for a safe gap in traffic before joining the roundabout. Once you're inside the roundabout, don't stop to let incoming traffic into the intersection you have the right of way. Always look out for pedestrians at the crosswalks and use your turn signal before you exit.
- If you're a pedestrian, use the designated crosswalks to travel through. Bicyclists can choose to travel through the roundabout as a vehicle, or to walk their bikes across the crosswalks as a pedestrian.

The Florida Department of Transportation urges you to stay alert and always pay attention to upcoming signage and speed advisories at a roundabout.

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