What is a roundabout?

Roundabouts are unsignalized circular intersections designed to maximize safety and minimize delay. Traffic circulates counter-clockwise around the central island. Entering vehicles must yield to all traffic already in the roundabout.

Roundabout benefits

- Reduces injury crashes by 75% and fatal crashes by 90%.
- Overall reduction of crashes by 30 to 40% since their inception in North America.
- Increases efficient traffic flow up to 50%.
- Benefits the environment by reducing emissions.
- Decreases fuel consumption by as much as 30%.
- Costs less than traffic signals and does not require expensive equipment or maintenance.

Please drive safely

Since roundabouts are fairly new to our area, please expect a short adjustment period as drivers get used to driving them.

Questions, comments or concerns?
Contact us in whichever way is most convenient.

Online at Project Website
www.dot.state.mn.us/d2/projects/hwy71-parkrapids

Call
(218) 755-6500

Driving in circles can be a good thing, if it means you get where you want to go quicker and safer. That’s why MnDOT has begun incorporating roundabouts into Minnesota’s road network.

MnDOT District 2
3920 Highway 2 West
Bemidji, MN 56601

www.dot.state.mn.us/d2
Driving a Roundabout

**Pedestrians**
Never cross to the center of a roundabout. Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks, but always be aware of vehicles. Watch for oncoming traffic before entering the crosswalk. Wait for a safe gap and cross. Cross only at designated crosswalks and use the raised island as a refuge.

**Bicycles on Path**
Dismount at the sidewalk ramp, and walk your bicycle. Follow the same rules that apply to pedestrians.

**Bicycles on Roadway**
Experienced cyclists travel through the roundabout using the same general rules that apply to motorists. Once in the roundabout, ride in the middle of the lane so you are more visible; motorists will be less likely to pass you.

**Emergency Vehicles**
If you have not entered the roundabout, pull over to let the emergency vehicle pass. If you are already in the roundabout, do not stop. Continue to your exit, then pull over to allow the emergency vehicle pass.

**Always obey the signs**
As you approach the roundabout, obey posted signs and advisory speed limits.

**Driving a Roundabout**
- Slow down approaching the roundabout. Observe all signs and obey speed limits.
- Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks.
- Enter when there is a safe gap in traffic. Give large vehicles plenty of space.
- When you are near your exit, use your right turn signal to indicate you intend to exit the roundabout.

**Large Vehicles**
The raised colored area around the center island, known as a “truck apron,” provides extra space for large trucks.