Did You Know...

School is back in session! Motorists are asked to be aware of children crossing streets as well as school buses loading or unloading children.

The Illinois Vehicle Code requires that the driver of a vehicle shall stop such vehicle before meeting or overtaking, from either direction, any school bus stopped at any location for the purpose of receiving or discharging pupils when there is in operation on the school bus the visual signals (flashing red lights and stop signal arm) as required. (625 ILCS 5/11-1414(a))

However, the driver of a vehicle upon a highway having 4 or more lanes which permits at least 2 lanes of traffic to travel in opposite directions need not stop such vehicle upon meeting a school bus which is stopped in the opposite roadway.

If a highway has 4 or more lanes and permits traffic to operate in both directions, the school bus shall load or discharge on those passengers whose residences are located to the right of the highway. The routes of school buses shall be so arranged that no child shall be required to cross a highway of 4 or more lanes.

Persons convicted of a violation of 625 ILCS 5/11-1414(a) face a suspension of their driving privileges for no less than 3 months or more than 1 year and a fine of no less than $150.00 or more than $500.00.