



What is the benefit of the flashing yellow left turn arrow?

They are safer

A decade-long national study by the Federal Highway Administration found that drivers had fewer crashes with the flashing yellow arrow.

They are more efficient

The new signal provides more options for controlling traffic based on variable traffic volumes since the timing sequence can be made to vary throughout the day.

Reminder to all drivers:

Any flashing yellow signal means drivers are to slow down and proceed through the intersection with caution. A flashing red signal means motorists should come to a complete stop before proceeding.



VARIATION OF FLASHING YELLOW ARROW

In some instances motorists may encounter a flashing yellow arrow in a three-section head as seen here. The same guidelines apply; however, no green arrow will be present.

At a Glance:



Steady red arrow
Drivers must stop and wait.



Steady yellow arrow
Drivers must prepare to stop if it is safe to do so.



Flashing yellow arrow
Drivers must yield to pedestrian and oncoming traffic prior to making the left turn.



Steady green arrow
Drivers turning left have the right of way.

A new turn signal ahead



Flashing yellow arrows are lighting up all across Wisconsin



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NEW FOUR-HEAD SIGNAL



FLASHING YELLOW ARROWS A SAFER YELLOW TURN SIGNAL

A new style traffic signal is being installed throughout Wisconsin to control left turns and improve safety at intersections. New four-section signal heads with arrows will gradually replace the traditional five-section signal heads that had a combination of circular lights and arrows. The new signal heads with arrows provide a more direct, less confusing, message.

How the new four-head signals work:

As usual, red means stop. A green arrow means a driver has the right of way to make a left turn. A solid yellow arrow means prepare to stop. A flashing yellow arrow means a driver may make a left turn if there is no oncoming traffic and there are no pedestrians crossing the street. The new flashing yellow arrow provides a more direct message for left turns: yield to opposing traffic and pedestrians before proceeding.



STEADY RED ARROW
Stop and wait.



STEADY YELLOW ARROW
The left-turn signal is about to change. Do not enter the intersection if you can stop safely. Vehicles in the intersection should complete their turn.



FLASHING YELLOW ARROW
You are allowed to turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. It also means oncoming traffic has a green light and you must determine if there is an adequate gap before turning.



STEADY GREEN ARROW
You have the right of way to turn left.

Comparison of left turn signals

Traditional
five-section
signal



New flashing
yellow arrow



proceed
with left
turn

prepare
to stop

stop

yield
before
proceeding

prepare
to stop

stop