



Each year the County has several backing accidents involving county vehicles. Most are minor and are preventable.

1. When possible, pull into a space that does not require backing.
2. If the vehicle is unfamiliar to you, practice with a spotter to learn the four corners of the vehicle.
3. **NEVER** back up without knowing what is behind you.
 - a. Perform the "Circle of Safety" by walking around the vehicle before backing. Something may be below the vision of your mirrors.
 - b. Ensure that your mirrors are properly aligned and (if equipped) backup cameras are functional.
 - c. Most people adjust the side mirrors so they can see the side of the car, not realizing this creates big blind spots. Instead, adjust the mirrors so that the side of the car is just out of view, decreasing the size of the blind spots.
 - d. TRIANGLE Method of Viewing: Rotate your vision from mirror to camera and mirror to mirrors if equipped. If you are uncomfortable with this rotation, STOP, look in all mirrors and cameras BEFORE proceeding. Remember to look in camera at start of backing and end of backing. **NEVER** use the camera all the way through the backing.
4. Tight Areas: When in tight areas, use a spotter if available. If not, it is always better to get out and look twice than to hit once.
5. Check for proper clearance i.e., overhead awnings, powerlines, poles, other vehicles, people, pets, etc.
6. **NEVER** assume the conditions behind you are the same as when you parked. **LOOK** before backing.

Five Rules of Backing

- i. Back only when necessary.
- ii. If you must back, back first and to the driver's side.
- iii. Before and during the backing, scan the areas your vehicle will be approaching.
- iv. Tap your horn continuously to signal your intentions.
- v. Use the rearview camera as a third mirror.