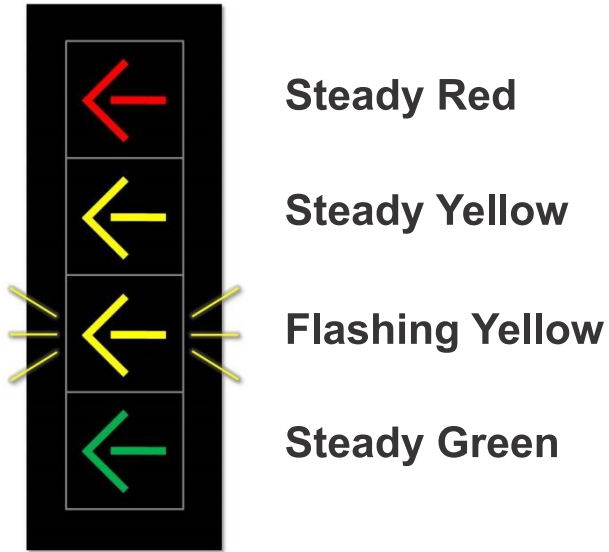


Left turn indications



What drivers should know



STOP. Left-turning drivers must stop and wait.



WARNING / CAUTION. The left turn signal is changing to red.



CAUTION. You may cautiously turn left **after** yielding to oncoming traffic and to pedestrians (similar to a green ball). Oncoming traffic will typically have a green light.



GO. Left-turning drivers have the right of way.

prepared by

**NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Bismarck, North Dakota
www.dot.nd.gov

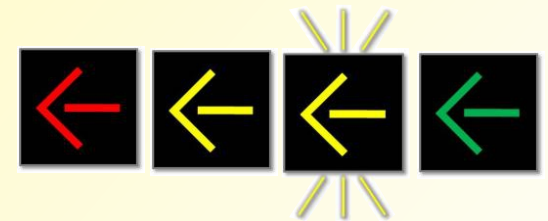
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2014

Introducing → → →

Flashing Yellow Arrow Left Turn Signals



NDDOT
North Dakota
Department of Transportation

Why the change?

Flashing yellow arrow left turn signals have been shown to be safer, more efficient, and more flexible than traditional signals. As a result, the federal rules for designing traffic signals have changed.

- **Safer**

A national study showed drivers made fewer mistakes with flashing yellow arrow indications than with the existing green ball indications.

- **More efficient**

Green left turn arrows can be used either before or after through traffic has a green ball. This improves signal timing progression and traffic flow in signalized corridors.

- **More flexible**

Left turn signal operations can now change during the day to better respond to fluctuations in traffic volumes.

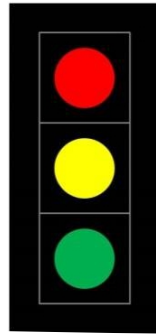
For example, during rush hour if there are few gaps in oncoming traffic, the signals can be more restrictive and only allow left turns on a green arrow. When rush hour is over and there are more gaps in oncoming traffic, the signals can then be less restrictive and allow left turns on green arrows and/or flashing yellow arrows.

- **Federal rules**

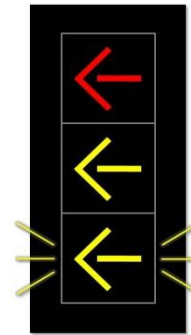
For new traffic signals, green ball indications are no longer allowed over left turn lanes.

Types of left turn signals

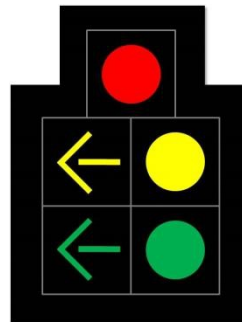
Traditional



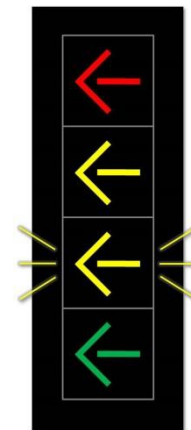
New



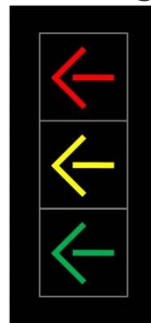
Traditional



New



No change



This type of left turn signal will continue to be used where there are dual left turn lanes, where left turn drivers have poor vision of oncoming through traffic, and at T-intersections.

When and where?

Flashing yellow arrow left turn signals will begin to be installed with new traffic signals and with traffic signal upgrade projects.

Will there be a sign?

A sign similar to those below may be installed with the first few flashing yellow arrow signals in a community. Then, in the future after drivers become more familiar with flashing yellow arrows, signs may no longer be installed.

