



## Toronto drivers' Top 10 pet peeves, From Traffic Services Sergeant Tim Burrows

**Broadcast time:** 11:15

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

Traffic Services

416-808-1900

A couple of weeks ago, I asked Toronto via Twitter and Facebook, "Hey Toronto. What's your biggest pet peeve about other road users? Let me know. I'll be writing about it."

Well, here are the results. I'm not surprised by any of the responses. Hey, I'm a driver too and what upsets me are the same things that upset you. What did surprise me was the order of the responses.

Here are honourable mentions that didn't make the top ten: Fail to clear intersections, quick-stoppers, late mergers, left on amber/red, fail to assist in passing, fail to lower high beams.

### #10 – Slow drivers

I don't agree but it is your list. This wasn't laid out as drivers who are in the passing lanes too slow, just slow drivers in general. Maybe it's not that they are too slow – maybe you are too fast.

### #9 – Slower-moving vehicles that pull into your lane while you are travelling faster

Often the driver looks only at the immediate space around them and not at the big picture of time zones and space.

### #8 – Late left-turn signals

Argh!! Drives me nuts, too. Inconsiderate and by not communicating soon enough can really destroy traffic flow. If you would have let me know what you were doing, I wouldn't be stuck behind you now.

### #7 – Distracted Drivers

Quickly becoming the norm for serious risks to public safety. 27 times increased risk in collision. By the way...hands-free does not mean you are minimizing the distraction. It only means you are complying with the law. You are still distracted.

### #6 – Cyclists who disobey the Highway Traffic Act

Only because this is your list did I include it. All of the responses have a degree of lawlessness to them but there were enough responses that specifically said cyclists, I had to include it here.

#### #5 – Left-lane bandits

Most people think this is reserved for the expressways and freeways, but any time there are multiple lanes you can see this happen. The order of populating lanes is from the right to the left and you only use the left lane for passing...pass over, return to the right.

#### #4 – Unsafe lane changes

These are horrible for so many reasons. The actions of unsafe lane changes can have a domino affect with other drivers over-reacting and causing further problems.

#### #3 – Follow too closely

Who doesn't get this? You are too close, vehicle in front stops, you can't stop in the space you left...problem. These are the laws of physics explained so simply anyone can get it.

#### #2 – Lane-cue cutters/Use lanes that end to ram themselves to the front

This came in most described as the drivers who leave the curb lane on an expressway, jump on an entrance ramp, and pass cars just to cram themselves back into the curb lane again. Illegal, rude, inconsiderate and for what...to pass four or five cars...wow, you got so much further ahead.

#### #1 – No signals

By a landslide! No wonder. Take a look and see how many people don't use their signals. What is very disturbing about this offence is that you can't fail to use your signal and not be causing a potential problem. Turn? Need to tell people about it. Lane change? Have to communicate with everyone.

So that's the way you responded. Watch for another question coming soon. In the meantime, here are my top 5...

#5 – Amber and red light runners.

#4 – Distracted drivers.

#3 – Drivers who don't move over, slow down, or get out of the way of emergency vehicles.

#2 – Speeding/aggressive drivers

#1 – Impaired Drivers

Traffic Services is dedicated to ensuring the safe and orderly movement of traffic within the City of Toronto. Stay informed with what's happening at [Traffic Services](#) by following us on [Twitter](#) (TrafficServices), and [Facebook](#) (Toronto Police – Traffic Services).

To learn more about the Toronto Police Traffic Services Safety Program that aims to reduce pedestrian injury and death through education and awareness, [click here](#).

---

Constable Wendy Drummond, Public Information, for Sergeant Tim Burrows, Traffic Services