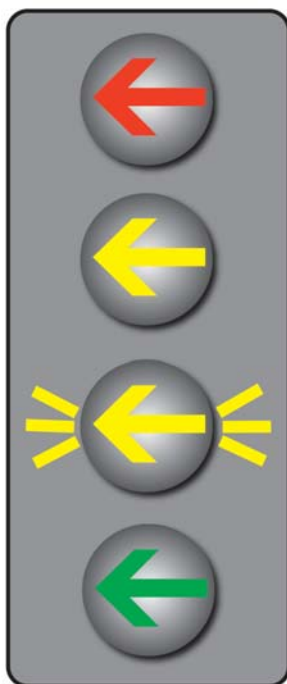


# Flashing Yellow Arrow Traffic Signals

Flashing yellow arrow traffic signals feature a flashing yellow arrow in addition to the standard red, yellow and green arrows. When illuminated, the flashing yellow arrow allows waiting motorists to make a left-hand turn after yielding to oncoming traffic. Otherwise, the new traffic signals work the same as traditional signals.

## What the arrows mean:



**Solid red arrow** – Drivers intending to turn left must stop and wait. Do not enter an intersection to turn when a solid red arrow is being displayed.

**Solid yellow arrow** – The left-turn signal is about to change to red and drivers should prepare to stop or prepare to complete a left turn if they are legally within the intersection and there is no conflicting traffic present.

**Flashing yellow arrow** – Drivers are allowed to turn left after yielding to all oncoming traffic and to any pedestrians in the crosswalk. Oncoming traffic has a green light. Drivers must wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before turning.

**Solid green arrow** – Left turns have the right-of-way. Oncoming traffic has a red light.

## Background:

In December 2009, after extensive testing, the Federal Highway Administration authorized use of flashing yellow arrows nationwide. A study conducted by the National Cooperative Highway Research Program determined that drivers had fewer crashes with flashing yellow left-turn arrows than with traditional yield-on-green signal configurations.

## Resources:

Video links displaying proper driving sequence for flashing yellow arrow traffic signals.

- MoDOT- <http://youtu.be/H6-hcgWt7co>
- MDOT- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulkanxT72KI>
- Wisconsin DOT - <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/av/flashing-yellow.swf>

Traditional	New
<b>Left-turn Signal Display Changes</b>	
The flashing yellow arrow replaces the circular green signal used in the traditional left-turn signal configuration to indicate the need for left-turning vehicles to yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.	