



UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

BEHIND THE STAR

SHERIFF MALCUM J. "JAMIE" PATTON



Around and Around, We Go!

If you haven't noticed, Union County is rapidly growing, bringing more people and traffic. With the influx of motor vehicles on the roadway, we must look at ensuring safety and efficiently maximizing traffic flow.

Safety will always be our number one priority. "With almost 600 crash reports taken in 2022, we are constantly looking at ways to improve safety on our roadways," says Sheriff Patton. Believe it or not, roundabouts are one of the easiest ways to lower the number and severity of crashes.

Studies by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) show that roundabouts achieve a 44% reduction in crashes and reduce serious injury and deadly crashes by nearly 90% at two-way stop intersections (From Ohio Department of Transportation). One of the benefits besides the reduction of crashes and severity of injuries is that traffic doesn't need to come to a complete stop compared to a full-stop intersection.

Here are a few tips to help you navigate your next roundabout:

- Be aware that a roundabout is upcoming and slow down.
- Yield to traffic and pedestrians in the roundabout. **The existing traffic has the right of way.**
- Always enter to the right and travel in a counterclockwise direction.
- Don't change lanes in the roundabout.
- Signal your exit.
- Don't drive next to oversized vehicles within the roundabout.

Roundabouts have become popular in the US since the 1990s; with the increase of roundabouts in Union County, we want you to be informed about navigating safely through them. If you have questions, please contact the Union County Sheriff's Office.