

## Driving Safety – Dealing with Tailgaters

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This article speaks to driving safely when encountering ‘tailgaters’ on Highland Hills roads as well as on Miller Road. This article is in response to an email from a Highland Hills resident describing an encounter with a tailgater.

This person wrote: “...the person that tailgated me then proceeded to blow their horn and go around me going at an all out speed down Miller Road ...going at least 50 miles per hour. For someone following the speed [limit] signs and being tailgated [it] is not only dangerous but in the event of a deer [crossing the road], it may mean a catastrophe for the person being tailgated, having to stop, and then being rammed from behind.” The writer also noted that the tailgater was a Highland Hills resident.

This is but one of a number of reports regarding tailgating of and by Highland Hills residents on the roads that we drive. While no one enjoys being intimidated by other drivers, one’s personal safety is paramount, and, in these situations, the best action is to, once on-coming traffic is clear, slow, pull to the right, and encourage the tailgater to pass you. This may include waving that driver by.

Clearly, this approach requires additional caution when driving on higher speed roads like Highway 101. Ideally, you can take advantage of areas that are marked for pulling off the highway to let others pass.

Finally, if you can obtain a description of the car and /or the license plate number should you encounter a tailgater, there may be some follow up that can be done to discourage such behavior in the future.