

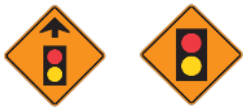
How to understand and navigate an Automated Flagger Assistance Device (AFAD).

Recently, the Province approved the use of the Automatic Flagger Assistance Device (AFAD) on Nova Scotian roads. During road construction season, motorists will start to see these devices in use at road construction projects throughout Nova Scotia.

What is an AFAD?

An AFAD is a Temporary Traffic Control Signal with a red signal light, amber signal light, and a gate arm that can be raised and lowered. On provincial roads, an AFAD can be used at a construction site and would be placed where you would normally see a Traffic Control Person with a Stop/Slow Paddle. The AFAD is remote-controlled by an operator positioned safely off the roadway, out of harm's way.

What to do when approaching an AFAD.



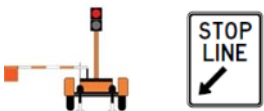
When an AFAD is in use at a construction zone, motorists will see one or a combination of these signs. These signs mean you should slow down, pay attention, and be prepared to stop.

Solid Amber Signal Light



A solid amber signal means that the AFAD operator has begun the process of stopping traffic. Immediately slow down and prepare to stop. The AFAD is about to transition to a red signal light and the gate arm will drop. All traffic must stop.

Red Signal Light

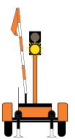


The red signal light means stop.

It is illegal to pass an AFAD displaying a red signal light.

Motorists should slowly approach the AFAD and stop at the position indicated by the "Stop Line" sign, or safely at the back of the queue of vehicles that may have already formed.

Flashing Amber Signal Light



Once the AFAD operator has stopped all opposing traffic and cleared the work area under AFAD control, the gate arm will raise and the red signal light will change to a flashing amber signal. At this time, you should check your surroundings to make sure there are no approaching vehicles, and then slowly proceed through the construction zone.

Be patient. Drive slowly. Stay alert. And always watch for traffic, workers, and equipment.