



## Child Passenger Safety

The information surrounding child passenger safety has exploded over the last 20 years. Information and conversation on the state laws, best practice and practical solutions to transporting children are discussed daily in person, on websites and parenting blogs.

Northern NJ Safe Kids/Safe Communities would like to take this opportunity to answer some of the questions we receive daily at our Car Seat Inspection Stations. We hope this information is helpful for you.

### Chester Car Seat Inspection Station Celebrate 1st Anniversary



The Car Seat Technicians celebrated the 1st Anniversary of Chester's Car Seat Inspection Station on Jan. 21, 2010.

The Chester Car Seat Inspection Station celebrated its 1st Anniversary on Thursday January 21, 2010. The Child Passenger Inspection Station opened in January 2009 as an expansion to the Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Program of Northern NJ Safe Kids/Safe Communities. The station has become a visible force for CPS in Morris County. On average 15 car seats are inspected by our certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

Our partner, the Chester First Aid Squad has donated the use of its ambulance bays and a storage area for the program. Additional funding has been secured by NJHTS and Morristown Memorial Hospital as well as Safe Kids Buckle Up and individual donations.

Senior CPS Technician Jackie Leach coordinates the efforts of both career and volunteer CPS technicians. "The goal is to see that every child leaves safer than they arrived," says Leach. The program has been well received by all."

Hours of operation are the 1st Tuesday of the month 2pm - 6pm and the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7am - 12 noon. The Chester First Aid Squad is located at 100 North Rd. in Chester. For more information call 908- 879-5560.

### Other Car Seat Inspection Stations

#### Morris-Essex Child Safety Seat Education Station

120 Dorsa Ave., Livingston

Hours: 9am - 2:30pm, Wednesdays

June, July, August 9am - 1pm

For more information call: 973-971-6477

#### N.J. State Police/Totowa Station

250 Minnisink Road, Totowa

Hours: 9am - Noon, Thursdays

For more information call: 973-785-9412 ext. 4215

## Has Your Car Seat Been Recalled?

Keeping track of recalls on your car seat may be difficult especially if you did not complete the manufacturer's inventory card upon purchase. Listed below are 2 recall lists that are updated throughout the year. If you are going to check your car seat for a recall, be sure to have your manufacture name, model number, and manufacturing dates available when reviewing the list. This information is located on a sticker attached to the car seat.

This listing is managed by the Recall management Division, Office of Defects Investigation Enforcement, and updated whenever the agency publishes a child safety seat recall, or

when new information is added to a recall record.

<http://www.odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/childseat.cfm>

The following lists identify recalls and safety notifications for child restraints (CRs) known by the UNC Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC) as of the "Updated" date listed above. This list is updated by HSRC as soon as possible after recall notifications are announced.

[http://www.hsrb.unc.edu/safety\\_info/child\\_passenger\\_safety/child\\_restraint\\_recalls\\_list.cfm](http://www.hsrb.unc.edu/safety_info/child_passenger_safety/child_restraint_recalls_list.cfm)

For statewide information on Child Passenger Safety go to the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety at <http://www.nj.gov/oag/hts/childseats/index.html>



## Child Restrain Re-use After Minor Crashes

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Position

NHTSA recommends that child safety seats be replaced following a moderate or severe crash in order to ensure a continued high level of crash protection for child passengers.

NHTSA recommends that child safety seats do not automatically need to be replaced following a minor crash.

Minor crashes are those that meet ALL of the following criteria:

- The vehicle was able to be driven away from the crash site
- The vehicle door nearest the safety seat was undamaged
- There were no injuries to any of the vehicle occupants
- The air bags (if present) did not deploy
- There is no visible damage to the safety seat.

Clarifying the need for a seat replacement will reduce the number of children unnecessarily riding without a child safety seat while a replacement seat is being required, and the number of children who will have to ride without a child seat if a seat were discarded and not replaced. The clarification will also reduce the financial burden of unnecessary replacement.

For more information concerning the use of a car seat after a crash go to <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps/ChildRestraints/ReUse/RestraintReUse.htm>

Certainly the car seat manufacturers are available to answer concerns about their car seat and models. Be sure to utilize these manufacturers as a resource as well.

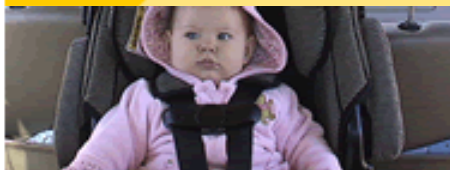
## Four Steps to Child Passenger Safety

Vehicle crashes remain the number one killer of children ages 2-14 in the United States. Safe Kids Buckle Up teaches parents and caregivers how to buckle up children the right way, on every ride.

There are many tools parents and caregivers can use to help reduce the risk of injury and death to children who ride in vehicles

<http://www.usa.safekids.org/skbu/cps/index.html>

### STEP 1 Infants

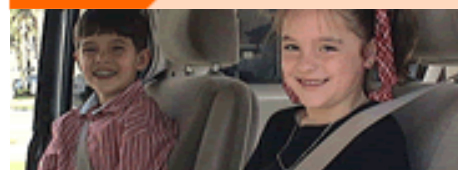


#### Have an Infant?

##### Here is what you need to do:

Use a rear-facing car seat to at least age 1 and 20 lbs. Use your rear-facing car seat longer if the seat has higher weight and height limits

### STEP 3 Boosters



#### Have a booster kid?

##### Here is what you need to know:

Use a booster seat with the vehicle lap and shoulder safety belts until your child passes the Safety Belt Fit Test

### STEP 2 Toddlers



#### Have a toddler?

##### Here is what you need to know:

Use a forward-facing car seat (convertible or combo seat) until the harness no longer fits

### STEP 4 Safety Belts



#### Have a Safety Belt Kid?

##### Here is what you need to do:

Once your child passes the Safety Belt Fit Test, make it a rule to use a safety belt in a back seat on every ride

## LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children)

Almost all cars and car seats made since September 2002 must have LATCH.

LATCH locks a car seat into the vehicle without using the safety belts. Older cars and car seat may not have LATCH.

Read your owner's manual and car seat instructions to see if you can use LATCH.

LATCH and safety belts provide the same protection. Use one or the other, not both.

### Chester ESC and Volunteer CPS Tech Laurie Cawley Honored

The Chester ESC and its volunteers were recognized as the Organization of the Year by Northern NJ Safe Kids / Safe Communities. This organization is comprised of the Chester First Aid Squad, Fire Department and Police Department. Together they have banded to develop a comprehensive injury prevention program in Chester.

Laurie Cawley was also recognized for her efforts at the Chester Car Seat Inspection Station. Not only has Laurie volunteered over 100 hours



Pam Fisher, Director of NJ Highway Traffic Safety, Jackie Leach, CPSTI and Laurie Cawley share a laugh at the 1 year anniversary of the Chester Car Seat Station.

installing car seat, but she has taken on the role as the public relations coordinator for the stations. Here efforts have assisted many throughout Morris County.

Prevention Works is the official triennial newsletter of Northern NJ SAFE KIDS/Safe Communities.

We welcome articles of interest highlighting your community or organization.

Let us know how you have made your community a safe community.

If you have any comments or topics you would like to see covered, please feel free to contact

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