



Child Passenger Safety Week

Child Passenger Safety Week was celebrated on September 23-29. This week gave us the opportunity to talk about safety for children in the car. With the number of children dying in car crashes on the rise, the need to keep kids secured in the right kind of car seat or booster seat is more urgent than ever.

A total of 662 children ages 0 through 10, nearly two every day, died as passengers in motor vehicles in 2016.

One of the common mis-

conceptions is the use of the tether. If you don't know what a tether is, you're not alone, and that's part of the problem. The tether is the strap and hook on the back of a forward-facing car seat. It is used for kids over age 2. When attached and tightened

to a vehicle's tether anchor, the tether keeps the car seat from pitching forward in a crash.

Without the top of the car seat secured, it can move an additional 4-6 inches further than it would than if the tether were used. This means a child's head could possibly hit another occupant, the seat in front of her or another part of the car



Philipsburg CPS Team



Par Troy CPS Team



Amanda Gosson CPST at Fairfield CPS Event

like the console. This could be the difference between a serious head injury and no injury at all.

Our research found that 64 percent of parents and caregivers at our car seat checkup events were not using the top tether to secure their car seat. That's shocking! Every car seat that can face forward has a tether and every vehicle has three anchors that could accept the hook found on the tether.

Events were celebrated in Fairfield, Parsippany, Phillipsburg and we held a press conference at our Car Seat Station in Livingston and our newest station at the Sparta Ambulance.

If you have questions about using a tether or are concerned about the fit of your child in your car seat visit www.preventionworks-nj.org to view our station hours.

Partnership with Sussex County Miners Drew Crowds This Summer!



The Sussex County Miners had a banner year winning the 2018 Cam Am Championships and their shared success and record breaking crowds gave Northern NJ Safe Kids Safe Kids/Safe Communities an opportunity to share safety tips with their fans.

Our newest Child Passenger Techs were present on the promenade for 5 home games. Each week a interactive safety display highlighted a different risk area. Child Passenger Safety, Home Safety, Water Safety, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety were covered.

Safety gifts and information was well received.



Northern NJ Safe Kids/Safe Communities looks forward to continuing this partnership in 2019.



**SAFE
KIDS**
NORTHERN
NEW JERSEY

Prevention Works is the official biannual 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 Karen Jean Feury, RN
Phone: 973-971-4327
Fax: 973-290-7350
email: karenjean.feury@atlantichealth.org

Walk this Way

We celebrated International Walk to School Day on Oct. 3, 2018 at the Wildwood School in Mountain Lakes. Northern NJ Safe Kids/Safe Communities, FedEx, BIA, Goryeb Children's Hospital, Parsippany EMS and our hosts the Mountain Lakes Police Department teamed

up to raise awareness, promote pedestrian safety and create safer routes for walking and bicycling for children.

Volunteers from all our partnered agencies mentioned above assisted with a Walk to School and a pedestrian safety exhibit.



Police Chief Shawn Bennett and Mayor Lauren Barnett were guest readers in the kindergarten classes and read Clifford Takes a Walk to the children.

We plan to continue our pedestrian and bike safety initiatives by promoting Bike to School Day and a Bike Rodeo in the Spring.

Look Listen and Learn: Fire Can Happen Anywhere

The latest statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) show that if you have a reported fire in your home, you are more likely to die today than you were a few decades ago. This startling statistic is behind this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware - fire can happen anywhere. Fire Prevention Week takes place October 7-13, 2018.

Through three simple calls-to-action, this year's theme identifies basic but essential ways people can reduce their risk to fire and be prepared in the event of one:

- Look for places fire can start
- Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm
- Learn two ways out of each room

"People take safety for granted and are not aware of the risk of fire" said KJ Feury Injury Prevention Coordinator for Morristown Medical Center. Paying attention to your surroundings, looking for available exits in the event of a fire or other emergency, and taking the smoke alarm seriously if it sounds can make a potentially life-saving difference in a fire or other emergency situation.

This year's Fire Prevention Week messages apply to virtually all locations. However, NFPA continues to focus on home fire safety, as the majority of U.S. fire deaths (four out of five) occur at home each year. In fact, the fire death rate (per 1000 home fires reported to the fire department) was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980.

"While we've made significant progress in preventing home fires from happening, these statistics show that there's still much more work to do when it comes to teaching people how to protect themselves in the event of one, and why advance planning is so critically important," said Feury.

Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware fire can happen anywhere works to remind the public that fires can and do still happen at home, as well as other locations – and that there are basic but vitally important steps people can take to remain safe.

For more information on fire safety visit your local fire department or visit www.nfpa.org for more information.

SAFE KIDS
WORLDWIDE

Pedestrian Safety Tips

Everything you need to know to keep your kids safe while walking.

Whether your kids are walking to school, the park or a friend's house, here are a few simple tips to make sure they get there safely.

Teach Kids How to Walk Safely

- Teach kids at an early age to look left, right and left again before crossing the street. Then remind them to continue looking around until safely across.
- It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths and cross at street corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
- Teach kids to make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street.
- Children under 10 need to cross the street with an adult. Every child is different, but developmentally, most kids are unable to judge the speed and distance of oncoming cars until age 10.
- Encourage kids to be especially alert for cars that are turning or backing up.
- Teach kids not to run or dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- If kids are walking when it's dark out, teach them to be especially alert and make sure they are visible to drivers. Have them wear light- or brightly-colored clothing and reflective gear.



- Put headphones down or turn off the volume before crossing the street.
- Be aware of others who may be distracted and speak up when you see someone who is in danger.
- If kids need to use a cell phone, teach them to stop walking and find a safe area to talk.



44 kids are hit by a car while walking every day in the U.S.

Let Your Actions Speak as Loudly as Your Words

- Be a good role model. Set a good example by putting your phone, headphones and devices down when walking around cars.
- When driving, put cell phones and other distractions in the back seat or out of sight until your final destination.
- Be especially alert and slow down when driving in residential neighborhoods and school zones. Be on the lookout for bikers, walkers or runners who may be distracted or may step into the street unexpectedly.
- Give pedestrians the right of way and look both ways when making a turn to spot any bikers, walkers or runners who may not be immediately visible.



Take Action Against Distraction

- Teach kids to put phones, headphones and devices down when crossing the street. It is particularly important to reinforce the message with teenagers.