

Safe Kids NEWZ



Playground Injuries

There are over 200,000 playground-related injuries reported annually according to The National Playground Safety Institute. How do injuries occur? Where do these injuries occur? Who is injured? How can injuries be prevented?

How do injuries occur? Falls are the most common type of playground injury, accounting for approximately 80 percent of all playground-related injuries.

Where do injuries occur? It is estimated that 75 percent of playground injuries occur on public playgrounds; although, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), only 9 percent of home playgrounds have proper protective surfacing.

Who is injured? Children ages 5-14 account for nearly 75 percent of all playground-related injuries.

How can injuries be prevented? Active adult supervision is the key to preventing playground-related injuries. In addition to active supervision, decreasing the height of playground equipment and using protective surfaces on the playground have shown to markedly reduce injury risk to children.

For more information on playground safety, visit the National Playground Safety Institute, a program of the National Recreation and Park Association, at www.nrpa.org.

Source: Safe Kids Worldwide

Summer 2008

CONFERENCES & TRAINING

- ◆ **Child Passenger Safety Certification Classes**
Various Dates and Locations
Log onto www.cpsboard.org for more information
- ◆ **Kids in Motion Conference**
July 9-12, 2008; Denver, CO
- ◆ **Child Passenger Safety Conference**
September 24-26, 2008; Atlantic City, NJ
- ◆ **Safe Kids Worldwide Leadership Conference**
October 15-18, 2008; Washington, D.C.
- ◆ **Child Death Review Network Meeting**
October 21-23, 2008; Johnstown, PA
- ◆ **Safe Kids Statewide Meeting**
November 6, 2008; Summerdale, PA
Go to www.pasafekids.org for more information

Safety In and Around Water

Pools, lakes, ponds, and beaches mean summer fun and cool relief from hot weather. But water also can be dangerous for children if you don't take the proper precautions. Make sure your child understands that swimming in a pool is different from swimming in a lake or an ocean.

At the Lake or Pond:

- ◆ Don't let children swim without adult supervision. Lakes or ponds may be shallow near the bank and then increase in depth further out from the shore.
- ◆ Ponds and lakes may hide jagged rocks, broken glass, or trash.
- ◆ Make sure your child wears foot protection, even while in the water.
- ◆ Watch out for weeds and grass that could entangle your child's leg or arm.

At the Beach:

- ◆ Teach children to always swim when and where a lifeguard is on duty. They should not swim close to piers or pilings because sudden water movements may cause swimmers to collide with them.
- ◆ Unlike the calm waters of a swimming pool, the beach has special dangers like currents and tides. Check with the lifeguard when you arrive to find out about the water conditions.
- ◆ Don't allow children to swim in large waves or undertows, and tell them never to stand with their back to the water because a sudden wave can easily knock a child over.
- ◆ Teach children that if they're caught in a rip current or undertow, they should swim parallel to the shore or should tread water and call for a lifeguard's help.



Source: Nemours Foundation www.kidshealth.org



Is a Used Child Safety Seat Safe?

As the temperature rises, so does the curiosity of parents and caregivers who shop through yard sales. While a low price for a car seat may seem like a great deal, it may not be worth what you think. Use the chart below to determine if an unknown car seat is the right choice for your child.

1	Do you know the history of the seat?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – DESTROY
2	Does the seat have a label with date of manufacture and model name or number?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – DESTROY
3	Is the seat less than 6 years old? (8 years for Fisher Price seats and the Maxi Cosi Priori)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – DESTROY
4	Does the seat have a label showing that it meets all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – DESTROY
5	Has the seat been <u>recalled</u> for a safety defect?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue to 5b	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue to 6
5b	Has the defect been corrected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue to 6	<input type="checkbox"/> No – DESTROY
6	Has the seat been involved in any vehicle crash (even a minor one)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - DESTROY	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue
7	Are there any cracks, bends, or breaks in the plastic shell?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – DESTROY	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue
8	Has the metal frame rusted, bent, or broken?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – DESTROY	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue
9	Do you have a copy of the manufacturer’s instructions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – obtain new instructions and continue or DESTROY
10	Does the seat have all it’s parts – harness straps, harness clip, seat cover, tether, padding, shield, and bolts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue	<input type="checkbox"/> No – obtain replacements and continue or DESTROY
11	Are the harness straps worn or frayed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Obtain replacements and continue or DESTROY	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue
12	Does the buckle or any other metal part show signs of rust?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Obtain replacements and continue or DESTROY	<input type="checkbox"/> No – continue
13	When buckled, does the mechanism lock securely? Does it remain locked?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – USE SEAT!!!	<input type="checkbox"/> No – Obtain replacements and continue or DESTROY

Source of chart: Child Passenger Safety www.cpsafety.com

Pedestrian Safety Tips

- **Travel in Pairs** – Never allow children under the age of 10 to cross the street alone. Adult supervision is essential for very young children.
- **Look Before You Leap** – Instruct children to look left-right-left when crossing a street and to continue looking as they cross. Children should never run into the street.
- **Be a Teacher**– Always model and teach proper pedestrian behavior. Cross streets at a corner, using traffic signals and crosswalks whenever possible. Make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing in front of them.
- **Go Against the Grain** – Teach children to walk facing traffic, as far to the left as possible, when side-walks are not available.
- **Shine Bright at Night** – Require children to wear light colors and reflective materials. Carry a flashlight at dawn and dusk or whenever it’s dark.

Source: San Diego State University www.kpbs.org





COORDINATORS' CORNER

Safe Kids Pennsylvania Welcomes Three New Coordinators

Jason Bittle is the new coordinator for Safe Kids York County. Jason worked with Safe Kids during his previous position with the York City Bureau of Health and is a Child Passenger Safety technician. Jason may be reached by telephone at 717-851-3231 or by email at jbittle@wellspan.org.

Keith Brown has become the coordinator of Safe Kids Bradford County. Keith is the Sports-Youth Director at the YMCA of Bradford County. Keith may be reached by telephone at 570-268-6922 or by email at sports-youth@bradfordcountymca.org.

And welcome to Safe Kids Centre County and their coordinator Lannette Johnston. Lannette is a nurse and is determined to get Centre County's affiliate up and running. Their first event was a press conference held at Life Link in State College in February. Lannette may be reached by telephone at 814-880-8506 or by email at LAJOHNSTON@homenursingagency.com.

Welcome to Safe Kids!

Regional Meetings

In order to continue to provide quality training to chapters and coalitions, Safe Kids Pennsylvania held two regional meetings in June in addition to the State-wide Meeting held on June 5, 2008. Regional meetings are designed to provide networking opportunities on a regional basis.

Northeast Pennsylvania chapters and coalitions were invited to participate in the meeting on June 26, 2008 at Luzerne Intermediate Unit. The Luzerne Intermediate Unit is located at 368 Tioga Avenue, Kingston. Meeting times were 9:30a.m. – 2:30p.m.

Coalitions and chapters in the western part of the state were encouraged to attend the regional meeting at Cranberry Township Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township.

For more information on the two regional meetings hosted in June, please contact us at www.pasafekids.org.

PRODUCT RECALLS

Visit U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission for current product recalls:

www.cpsc.gov

1-800-638-2772



U.S. Consumer Product
Safety Commission

Online Learning Opportunity



On May 29, 2008 Safe Kids PA hosted an Elluminate session on ATV Safety. Presenters included Jan Anderson, PA Department of Health; Donna Grather, Lehigh Valley Hospital; and Mike Mount from The ATV Safety Institute.

To learn more about this session and to view previous recordings, please visit www.pasafekids.org. If you have any ideas for future sessions, please let us know.

Also, save the date for the next Elluminate session, August 12, 2008. The session will focus on Baby Safety in preparation for Baby Safety Month in September.





<p align="center">Baby Safety Month September 2008</p>	<p align="center">Child Passenger Safety Week September 21-27, 2008</p>	<p align="center">Farm Safety and Health Week September 21-27, 2008</p>
<p>The month of September is a time to celebrate the safety of our littlest angels.</p>	<p>Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children in the US.</p>	<p>Each year, hundreds of children are killed and thousands more are injured in farm-related incidents.</p>
<p>This September marks the 25th Anniversary of Baby Safety Month and is sponsored annually by JPMA (Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association).</p>	<p>Have a certified technician check your child's restraint.</p> 	<p>Farm Safety: Not Just for Farmers Anymore!</p> 

OTHER OBSERVANCES

Fireworks Safety Month - June 2008

Home Safety Month - June 2008

Baby Safety Month - September 2008

National Infant Mortality Awareness Month - September 2008

Sports and Home Eye Safety Month - September 2008



Edward G. Rendell, Governor

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