



"Your Local
Health Department"

NEWS RELEASE

September 13, 2017

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Child Passenger Safety Week

Buckle Children the Right Way in the Right Seat

Every year the Center for Disease Injury Center celebrates Child Passenger Safety Week to raise awareness about the importance of always properly buckling up children to keep them as safe as possible on the road. This year National Child Passenger Safety week will take place from September 17 to September 23. In the United States, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2015 663 children ages 12 years and younger died in motor vehicle traffic crashes and nearly 132,000 were injured. The best way to keep children passengers as safe as possible is buckling up children in age and size-appropriate car seats, booster seats or seat belts. Car seats reduce the risk of death in car crashes by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers ages 1 to 4. Booster seats reduce serious injury by 45% for children ages 4 to 8. Children 13 years of age should ride properly buckled in the back seat on every trip. Never place a child in a car seat in the front seat, as air bags can kill young children riding in the front seat.

As part of National Child Passenger Safety Week, September 23, 2017 is National Seat Check Saturday. Drivers with children passengers are encouraged to visit a child safety seat inspection station to have a certified technician inspect their car seat and give hands-on advice free of charge. To locate a car seat inspection station in your area, visit <http://cert.safekids.org/find-tech-0>.

To learn more about services provided by the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency "Your Local Health Department", visit our website at www.bhsj.org and like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BHSJWIC/.