

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SEAT INSTALLATION

The Closter Police department has two certified child passenger safety seat technicians.

Residents with children under 8 years of age or children under 80 pounds are encouraged to have their child passenger safety seats inspected to ensure they are properly installed.

Residents that wish to be educated and instructed on the proper installation of new child safety seats are also encouraged to call for an appointment. National studies have shown that between 80% and 90% of all safety seats are improperly installed.

39:3-76.2a Child passenger restraint system; booster seat, use; failure to use not contributory negligence; inadmissibility in evidence.

1. Every person operating a motor vehicle, other than a school bus, equipped with safety belts who is transporting a child under the age of eight years and weighing less than 80 pounds on roadways, streets or highways of this State, shall secure the child in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat, as described in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 213, in a rear seat. If there are no rear seats, the child shall be secured in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat, as described in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 213. In no event shall failure to wear a child passenger restraint system or to use a booster seat be considered as contributory negligence, nor shall the failure to wear the child passenger restraint system be admissible as evidence in the trial of any civil action. L.1983,c.128,s.1; amended 2001, c.244, s.1.

To set up an appointment please call Officer James Buccola @201-768-5000 ext 533 or Officer Thomas Brueck @ 201-768-5000 ext 421. You may also contact either officer via email at jbuccola@closterpolice.org or tbrueck@closterpolice.org

4 Easy Steps to Protect our Children

Rear-Facing Seats-Infants - from birth to at least 1 year old and at least 20 pounds

For the best possible protection keep infants in the back seat, in rear-facing child safety seats, as long as possible up to the height or weight limit of the particular seat. At a minimum, keep infants rear-facing until a minimum of age 1 and at least 20 pounds.

Always read the child seat instruction manual. Each manufacturer provides specific instructions regarding proper use and installation of their child seats.

Toddlers - Age 1 & 20 lbs to Age 4 & 40 lbs

When children outgrow their rear-facing seats (at a minimum age 1 and at least 20 pounds) they should ride in **forward-facing** child safety seats, in the back seat, until they reach the upper weight or height limit of the particular seat (usually around age 4 and 40 pounds).

Always read the child seat instruction manual. Each manufacturer provides specific instructions regarding proper use and installation of their child seats.

Children - from about age 4 to at least age 8

Once children outgrow their forward-facing seats (usually around age 4 and 40 pounds), they should ride in **booster seats**, in the back seat, until the vehicle seat belts fit properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the chest (usually at age 8 or when they are 4'9" tall).

Always read the child seat instruction manual. Each manufacturer provides specific instructions regarding proper use and installation of their child seats.

Tweens - age 8 and older

When children outgrow their booster seats, (usually at age 8 or when they are 4'9" tall) they can use the adult seat belt in the back seat, if it fits properly (lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the chest).

HELPFUL LINKS:

www.nhtsa.gov

www.safekids.org