

Illinois Department of Transportation's  
Division of Traffic Safety  
Child Passenger Safety E-News

**The Reality of Booster  
Seat Use -**

**A CEU Webinar**

September 27, 2011

3 pm - 4 pm CST

No Cost

The need for booster seats is an important but often misunderstood issue for children, their caregivers and child passenger safety advocates. With few exceptions, state legislation and much of the supporting educational information equates seat belt readiness to arbitrary child ages, heights and weights. Research and field experience, however, consistently demonstrate that seat belt fit, which is specific to the child and the vehicle seating position, is the only true indicator.

This session looks at the mechanisms of seat belt injury, the potential injuries themselves, and how these injuries can be overcome through the use of booster seats. Attendees will receive:

- A better understanding of seat belt injuries
- Awareness of recent booster

**Certification Courses**

**Woodstock: September 7-10**

For more information, contact Robert Brasky at 847-531-0096 or [rabrasky@att.net](mailto:rabrasky@att.net)

**Rockton: September 8, 9, 16 & 17**

For more information, contact Melanie Wingo at 815-761-7365 or [mwingo@niu.edu](mailto:mwingo@niu.edu)

**Downs: September 15, 16, 23, & 24**

For more information, contact Kerisa Fish at 309-828-1892 or [kerisa@crrn.com](mailto:kerisa@crrn.com)

**Gurnee: October 4-7**

For more information, contact Wendy Mann at 847-599-7000 or [wendym@police.gurnee.il.us](mailto:wendym@police.gurnee.il.us)

**Springfield: October 11-14**

For more information, contact Mary Kay Reed at [mreed@siumed.edu](mailto:mreed@siumed.edu)

**Elgin: October 26-29**

For more information, contact Robert Brasky at 847-531-0096 or

research

- A better understanding of seat belt fit, with and without a booster
- A better understanding of certain booster features (lap belt guides, seat belt guides, side impact protection, and more)

Dorel Juvenile Group and Safe Ride News are proud to sponsor this webinar in partnership with Joseph M. Colella, Child Passenger Safety Instructor of Traffic Safety Projects. For participation in this webinar, you are eligible to receive one CEU credit towards your own Child Passenger Safety Technician or Instructor certification.

Joe Colella is a nationally respected consultant, speaker, instructor, correspondent and advocate. Since becoming involved in occupant protection advocacy, he has worked on improvement and educational efforts with many national organizations. He was also one of the original certified instructors for the National Standardized CPS Training Program, is a past Chairman of the National CPS Board, and has personally helped with education in 45 states.

Space for this webinar is limited. To register go to the link below:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/314309042>

## **National CPS Week**

**September 18 – 24, 2011**

[rabrasky@att.net](mailto:rabrasky@att.net)

### **Renewal Course**

None at this time.

### **IDOT Contacts**

**State Occupant Protection Coordinator/** Jennifer Toney  
[jennifer.toney@illinois.gov](mailto:jennifer.toney@illinois.gov)

**Assistant State Occupant Protection Coordinator/** Megan Fairheart  
[Megan.Fairheart@illinois.gov](mailto:Megan.Fairheart@illinois.gov)

**Northern Illinois TSL/**Melanie Wingo [mwingo@niu.edu](mailto:mwingo@niu.edu)

**Collar & Cook Counties TSL/**Robert Brasky  
[rabrasky@att.net](mailto:rabrasky@att.net)

**Chicago TSL/**Wanda Vazquez  
[wvazquez2562@hotmail.com](mailto:wvazquez2562@hotmail.com)

**East Central TSL/**Kerisa Fish  
[kerisa@crrn.com](mailto:kerisa@crrn.com)

**West Central TSL/**Jessi Hopkins  
[jessi@crrn.com](mailto:jessi@crrn.com)

**Southeastern TSL/**Kathy White  
[kwhiteseilopc@hotmail.com](mailto:kwhiteseilopc@hotmail.com)

**Southwestern TSL/**Rachel Walker [buckleup@siu.edu](mailto:buckleup@siu.edu)

IDOT-DTS will unveil a new CPS campaign during National CPS Week. The new theme is “Don’t Leap Too Soon...Take Each Step To The Limit” and incorporates a new logo along with the new recommendations for each Step. New promotional materials including book marks and posters have been developed and can be ordered soon by visiting [www.buckleupillinois.org](http://www.buckleupillinois.org). Please help us promote this campaign and the important message of keeping kids in each type of car seat to the upper height and weight limits by placing an order and distributing materials in your community.

You can also utilize the website to obtain an OP Ed piece for your local paper, talking points, fact sheet, and a PDF of a placemat you can print and distribute to local restaurants. NHTSA also has new materials available for CPS Week at [www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov](http://www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov).

## **Seat Check Saturday September 24, 2011**

This year will be one of the best yet for Seat Check Saturday in Illinois. Illinois will lead the nation once again in event numbers by hosting more than 80 events statewide. Thank you so much to everyone who has agreed to coordinate an event in their area and also to those technicians who have agreed to work. It is such a wonderful opportunity for us to serve the families of Illinois. A special thanks to AAA and Evenflo for helping to make our events

special through their generous support of car seats and volunteer t-shirts.

### **Illinois State Fair 2011**

Thanks so much to all the technicians that helped make the CPS booth at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield a huge success. Your time is much appreciated. For those technicians assisting with the booth at Du Quoin over the next few weeks, thank you as well.

### **Don't Wait Until It's Too Late**

Lately there has been growing concern over the number of technicians and instructors waiting until the last minute to compete the recertification requirements. Each recertification cycle is 2-years and the requirements can be met at any time. The Illinois CPS Advisory Board and IDOT-DTS strongly encourage everyone to get their requirements taken care of early in the cycle. CEUs and seat sign-offs can be completed and entered into your individual profile at anytime during the cycle. Check with the instructors in your areas to see what their requirements are for seat sign-offs. For instructors, if you don't have at least 10-15 hours of instruction by the end of the first year of the cycle, start looking immediately for courses and offer your assistance, even if it's just one day. Our numbers in Illinois are strong and we need to

maintain in order to continue to serve the families of Illinois.

## **Teen Outreach**

IDOT-DTS is currently recruiting high schools for the 2011-2012 Operation Teen Safe Driving program. All interested schools, public and private, can submit an application by October 1 to be considered for the program. If selected, the school will receive \$2000 to complete a peer-lead traffic safety program in their school and community between December 1 and February 29. If you have contacts at your local high school, please get in touch with the Traffic Safety Liaison for your area or have the school go to [www.teensafedrivingillinois.org](http://www.teensafedrivingillinois.org) and complete the application.

## **Ford Introduces New Technology**

Ford Motor Company now offers an inflatable safety belt as an option for 2<sup>nd</sup> row outboard seating positions. The option is currently only available on the 2011 Explorer but may be offered on other models in the future. Ford has done extensive testing on this product that has been in development for the past decade. Currently, car seat manufacturer's are taking a cautious approach on whether or not they will allow the use of this belt with their car seats. If you encounter one of these vehicles in the field, you should contact the car seat manufacturer

prior to installing the car seat in an outboard position if the instruction manual does not address installation with this new technology. You can check out videos on YouTube showing crash testing on the inflatable belts.

<http://www.buckleupillinois.org>

[Forward to a Friend »](#)

All information is the sole property of our company and the right to distribute this content is based upon prior terms of service and agreements. To remove your address from this list, please [unsubscribe](#). Please visit our website for more details. **Mailing Address:** 1340 N. 9th Springfield, Illinois