

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Vehicle Occupant Safety Program (VOSP)

Spring 2020 • e-Newsletter for California's Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Community

This quarterly e-Newsletter provides a summary of CPS laws and programmatic support for the California community of local health departments, instructors, technicians, and advocates.

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Change of Date – Heatstroke Awareness Day, May 1, 2020

The new date for Heatstroke Awareness Day is May 1, 2020, instead of July 31, 2020. The change in date is intentional to ward off deaths from hot cars that happen at any time of the year but are especially prevalent during the summer months. Even a modest outside temperature can be deadly to young children! Please mark your calendars and get your educational campaigns ready early! Here are some useful links to gear up your campaign/messages.

- [KidsAndCars](#)
- [No Heat Stroke](#)
- [NHTSA and <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/child-safety/heatstroke-prevention>](#)
- [Safe Kids and <https://www.safekids.org/take-action-prevent-heatstroke>](#)

Summer Vacation Travel with Children

With Coronavirus amongst us for now and flights already seeing a reduction in availability, more families are likely to drive this summer on trips to see family or friends. Let's be prepared!

As you may know, RV's do not have the same structure as cars or trucks, and so strapping a car seat into the bench seat or having children free roaming in the spacious cabin is not optimal while driving high speeds during summer vacations. It is highly advantageous to drive in a truck or SUV and tow a trailer, thereby securing your child

passengers as you normally do in a car or booster seat appropriately (and safely). ProConsumer Safety has a discussion and resources on this topic.

Likewise, summer holidays may mean more [taxi's/Uber/Lyft](#) rides, which again is confusing to travelers on how to handle car/booster seats. We suggest the very negligible [Mi-Fold](#) or [BubbleBum](#) as a booster, or an [EZ-On](#) and [SafeRider](#) vests.

Another issue is the use of European car seats which often have a 3-point harness system and do not meet FMVSS 213 standards. As a rule if someone is a visitor from Europe they can use the car seat they brought with them, but if they are transitioning to stay for a long time and/or move to the U.S. they will need to purchase a U.S. car seat that meets our FMVSS 213. [European car seats](#) can be secured appropriately in U.S. vehicles but sometimes look very different, so be sure you understand how to properly install one.

[Safer CA, November 17-18, 2020](#)

Safer CA is a conference to promote unintentional injury prevention for children and youth in California. The conference will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Sacramento, CA with pre and post conference sessions on Monday, November 16, 2020, and Thursday, November 19, 2020. Conference presentations and workshop development is currently in progress. If you wish to participate in the planning process or have a presentation you want to make, please contact conference planner Steve Barrow (scbarrow88@gmail.com) with the California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health (CCCSH). Registration and pre and post sessions will be announced soon.

[Childhood Unintentional Injury Prevention Webinars](#)

The California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health (CCCSH) is hosting webinars on various injury prevention topics, including:

- Social Media Tools in Use - March 26, 2020, 10:30am
- Drowning Prevention - April 19, 2020, 9:30am
- Coalition Staffing and Volunteers - April 30, 2020, 10:30am
- Sleep Suffocation/Safe Sleep - May 21, 2020, 11:00am
- Poisoning Prevention - June 18, 2020, 10:00am

The webinars are recorded but do not award continuing education units. Contact Gerry Root for registration: rootge@gmail.com

[We are here to support you!](#)

Please contact VOSP staff if you have any CPS Technician Training requests or questions, need CPS educational materials, or want to be on the list to receive future VOSP e-Newsletters.

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If you have any CPS programmatic questions, please contact Mitch Zehnder, the Office of Traffic Safety Occupant Protection and CPS State Coordinator, at (916) 509-3026 or Mitch.Zehnder@ots.ca.gov.

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