

# ARKANSAS CPS TECH UPDATE

This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> issue of our quarterly electronic newsletter for child passenger safety (CPS) advocates throughout Arkansas. In order to remain up to date on major issues in the ever- changing field of CPS, each edition will provide the latest news, recall information, and CPS information. We would like to spotlight a local or statewide CPS program that is making a difference in their community or state. If you would like to share the successes of your program, or other programs you know about, we would love to hear about them. We welcome any and all suggestions to help make this newsletter useful to you as a CPS technician or advocate. If this is your first time to receive the Tech Update, back issues are available upon request.

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**Visit our website to learn more about upcoming events: [www.carseatsar.org](http://www.carseatsar.org)**

## QUICK GLANCE:

April 16	Car Seat Check-Up Event, War Memorial, Little Rock	10am – 2pm
April 20-22	Car Seat Certification Course, Newport	
April 22	Car Seat Check-Up Event, Village Mall, Newport	3pm – 5pm
May 7	Car Seat Check-Up Event, McCain Mall, N. Little Rock	10am – 1pm

Also be sure to check out the *Technician Corner* tab, you can find back issues of the CPS Tech Update and links to many of the websites we rely on for up-to-date information. Please let us know if you have any CPS events you would like on the calendar.

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## CPS UPDATE – LATEST NEWS YOU CAN USE:

The American Academy of Pediatrics published its new policy for child passenger safety on March 21, 2011. On the same day, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration released their new recommendations for child passenger safety. The recommendations are comparable for both. I have included a chart which can be found on the NHTSA's website:

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/DOT/NHTSA/Traffic%20Injury%20Control/Articles/Associated%20Files/4StepsFlyer.pdf>

# Car Seat Recommendations for Children



- ❑ Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, and choose a seat that fits in your vehicle and use it every time.
- ❑ Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
- ❑ To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- ❑ Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



## Birth – 12 months



Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat.

There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.



## 1 – 3 years



Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.



## 4 – 7 years



Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.



## 8 – 12 years



Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

## DESCRIPTION (RESTRAINT TYPE)



**A REAR-FACING CAR SEAT** is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.



**A FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT** has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.



**A BOOSTER SEAT** positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.



**A SEAT BELT** should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.

Make sure to follow NHTSA on Facebook or on Twitter to keep up with the latest news:



[www.facebook.com/childpassengersafety](http://www.facebook.com/childpassengersafety)



<http://twitter.com/childseatsafety>

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## **WELCOME NEW TECHNICIANS!**

(1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2011)

### **January 2011 Certification Class in Monticello**

Robin Caldwell, Hope Place Monticello  
Ashli Davis, Ashley County Health Unit  
Megan Frederick-Usoh, Injury Prevention Center/SIPP  
Renell Ivy, UAMS Kids First  
Crystal Johnson, UAMS Kids First  
Carolyn Lambert, UAMS, Kids First  
Mary Mitchell, Hope Place Monticello  
Betty Wahlquist, Monticello, AR  
D'Kandis Wilborn, UAMS AHEC Southwest

### **February 2011 Certification Class in Searcy**

Brandon Anderson, Searcy Fire Department  
Chris Ashcraft, Jacksonville Fire Department  
Garren Batts, Searcy Fire Department  
Joshua Bertagnolli, Searcy Fire Department  
Jo-Patrick Black, Searcy Fire Department  
Jason Cameron, Conway Police Department  
Nathaniel Crump, Searcy Fire Department  
Jason Davis, Conway Police Department  
John Falwell, Searcy Fire Department  
Andrew Garlington, Searcy Fire Department  
William Grady, Searcy Fire Department  
Zach May, Searcy Fire Department  
Kristopher Roachell, Jacksonville Fire Department

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## **RECALLS: ARE YOU UP TO DATE?**

Do you have the most up-to-date recall list? The Recall List is based on the latest information received and verified as of 4/5/2011. The *SafetyBeltSafe USA* recall list was updated February 21, 2011. The University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center recall list was updated March 2, 2011, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's recall list was last revised February 14, 2011.

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**To access and view an updated recall list, go to:**

1) *SafetyBeltSafe, USA*: [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)

This recall list includes both official recalls and problems that have been identified by child passenger safety advocates. Sections are organized alphabetically by manufacturer. At the end of each section is a list of seats without recalls and seats that should no longer be used. There is no cost to view the SBS recall list. Only subscribers can print the recall list.

**2) University of North Carolina, Highway Safety Research Center:** [www.hsrc.unc.edu](http://www.hsrc.unc.edu). This recall list is available on-line and can be printed free. It is updated when an official recall is added to the list. The index of seats makes it easier to find recalled seats in the document. On this site, you can sign up for a free notification service to receive an email whenever a new recall is added to this list.

**3) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:** [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)  
This recall list is available on-line and can be printed free. It is only updated when an official recall is added to the list. On this site, you can sign up for a free notification service to receive an email whenever a new recall is added to this list.

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## CPS PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:



Instead of spotlighting a project in this issue, I wanted to pay my respects to a member of the CPS community we lost last month: William R. Spencer, Jr, "Bill".

Bill was a highly respected CPS Technician and Instructor and a well-loved friend for many of us in the field. Bill began his career with the Arkansas Crime Information Center in 1972. Then, in 1977 he became a police officer with the Little Rock Police Department. He retired in 2000 after 23 years of service and came to Arkansas Children's Hospital and became a CPS Technician Instructor. I worked with Bill and got to know him over a five year period as both a technician and an instructor. It wasn't a very long time, but long enough for me to count him among my friends. He was always telling a joke or doing something to make people laugh. I learned a lot from Bill, and I will always appreciate the

memories of the classes we taught and the check-up events we worked together. ~ Holly T.

When I first joined Arkansas Children's Hospital Community Outreach, I was introduced to Bill Spencer. In the years that followed he was first a mentor to me and then a friend. Bill was one of those people that come along from time to time who seems to know someone from everywhere. It didn't matter if you were going to lunch with him at some small, out of the way restaurant in Little Rock or teaching at a CPS class in Russellville, Bill always stopped to talk to people. He loved being in the community and working for the community. There were many occasions when he would go to places like Toy's R Us or Wal-Mart to set up a table for 'Ask the Car Seat Guy' just so he could meet and talk to new parents. Bill was a great Police Officer, a great CPS Technician-Instructor, and a great friend. He will be missed by many. ~ Charles Maxwell

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# CPS RESOURCES:

CPS *Express* !



## A) National CPS Certification's *CPS Express* is available online:

<http://cert.safekids.org/resources/express.html>


The April 2011 Issue includes information on the following:

- New AAP Guidelines on Seat Selection: Safe Kids and NHTSA Concur
- National CPS Training Program Curriculum Suggestions?
- The National CPS Board Announces the 2010 Technician and Instructor of the Year

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## B) National CPS Board *Tech Update Tools for Techs* – **Sign up now!**

Source: *Winter 2010/11 Issue* Go to [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org)

- 1)  **CPS Training Curriculum Published for EMS Providers** – "Improving Occupant Protection for Non-Critical Pediatric Patients in Ambulances: A Training Curriculum for EMS Personnel" is a new course from the Automotive Safety Program, Riley Hospital for Children, Indianapolis, Indiana. The course, funded in part by NHTSA, is designed to teach EMS personnel about selection and installation of ambulance-specific restraints and various conventional child restraints on the ambulance cot. Course instructors are required to be certified child passenger safety technicians with current, hands-on experience in transporting patients in ambulances, such as emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and others involved in pediatric emergency transport. A disk containing all of the course materials is available to qualified instructors.

Contact Jody Yoder, Automotive Safety Program at Riley Hospital for Children, 1-800-KID-N-CAR, for an instructor application and the course disk. For other questions regarding the course, please contact Judith Talty, or Laura Novak.

## 2) Avenues for Reporting CR and Vehicle Issues to NHTSA –

- [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov): Use this website to review safety recalls and prior/current investigations or to file a complaint (VOQ) about a child restraint, other item of motor vehicle equipment, or a motor vehicle. The site also contains a detailed paper explaining the investigatory and recall process, which is downloadable as a PDF.
- Auto Safety Hotline, 1-888-327-4236 or 1-800-424-9393: Use this telephone-based service operated by NHTSA as an alternative way to report product complaints or obtain recall information about a vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment, including a child restraint.

## 3) **LATCH Manual, 2011 Edition**, The new edition of the LATCH Manual is now available from Safe Ride News Publications, [www.saferidenews.com](http://www.saferidenews.com).

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## C) RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS – Don't Wait Until the Last Minute!

### Tips on How to Get CEUs for Recertification

You may re-certify up to four months before your certification expiration date without losing any time. Avoid problems--don't delay! You MUST know your username and password to complete the online recertification process. If you don't know both, please call 877-366-8154.

**You need 6 CEUs (you can mix and match) to recertify. Many may be done at your convenience.**

#### A few tips to get you started...

**Newsletters/Manuals/Journals:** (Category 5)

##### Tech Update

- At the CPS Board's home page ([www.cpsboard.org/](http://www.cpsboard.org/)), click on **Earn CEUs Online** (right column). You will have several editions to choose from.
- Two updates with quizzes for one CEU only (1 CEU max).

##### Examples of scientific articles – updated quarterly <http://cert.safekids.org>

- This is a listing of various scientific journal articles that you can read (you have to locate them). It allows for 3 articles to equal 1 CEU; 1 CEU is the maximum allowed for this category.

LATCH Manual Quiz at [www.saferidenews.org](http://www.saferidenews.org)

- **ALERT:** A new pink Latch Manual for 2009 has just been released. Go to [www.saferidenews.com](http://www.saferidenews.com) to complete the online order form.
- Click on Quick Links, scroll down to the CEUs for CPSTs section and click on the links to the 2009 LATCH Manuals (pdf) for the Latch Quiz.
- 1 CEU max. (limit one quiz)

Car seat manufacturer instruction quiz at [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)

- At the Safety Belt Safe USA home page, click on CEUs for Recertification (under the column Tools for Techs).
- To get to the quiz, you must click on the blue word quiz near the bottom of the page.
- 1 CEU max. (limit one quiz)

**Online Sessions:** (Category 4)

o [www.SafeKidsWebinars.org](http://www.SafeKidsWebinars.org) - 4 online presentations on School Buses, A Tech's Guide to Recalls, Transportation of Children in Vehicles Other Than Cars and Federal Regulations. Read the instructions and requirements carefully

o [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org) - 4 online presentations worth 1 CEU each. Click on the Earn CEUs Online link on the right. Read the instructions and requirements carefully. A certificate of completion will be generated when the quiz is passed (80%). Be sure

you can **print** from the computer before you start. You must be able to print proof of completion.

o [www.buckleupnc.org/training/index.cfm](http://www.buckleupnc.org/training/index.cfm) - Online videos from NC CPS Conference worth 0.5 to 1 CEU each (5 CEU sessions are currently available). For CEUs, you must create an account on [www.buckleupnc.org](http://www.buckleupnc.org). Techs will only be able to take the quiz and earn CEU credits if they have created an account, are signed in, and have watched the entire video.

o **Manufacturer Sites:** Two manufacturers provide online CEUs through special links in currently certified technicians' online profiles by clicking on the **Online CEUs action item** and selecting on Britax or Evenflo. Follow the instructions provided.

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## **CERTIFICATION RENEWAL CLASS**

Technicians whose certifications have expired are eligible to take the 8-hour Certification Renewal Course.

This class is designed to renew the certification for expired technicians who, again, wish to become nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs). After successfully completing this class, students will be re-certified and be able to provide both individual and group CPS education. Teaching strategies include lecture, skills testing, and a written test (open book – 50 questions).

If you are interested, please contact Holly Terry at 501-364-2478 or email [hmterry@uams.edu](mailto:hmterry@uams.edu).

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## **OPINIONS, SUGGESTIONS, CORRECTIONS, ETC.**

As CPS Technicians and Advocates, your opinion is important to us. Please let us know what you are doing in your community and we will add it to the Calendar of Events. Also, share with us a summary of your program and we'll spotlight your program in upcoming editions. Let others know the great work you are doing. Thanks for all you do in protecting the children of your community and this great state. Next edition coming in July 2011!

If you would like to be taken off of the mailing list, you may do so by replying to this email and typing "Please remove" in the subject line.

The Arkansas CPS Tech Update is sponsored by the UAMS Child Passenger Safety Education Program. For more information please contact Holly Terry at 501-364-2478 or email [hmterry@uams.edu](mailto:hmterry@uams.edu).

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**The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible.**

*Arthur C. Clarke*