



For Immediate Release  
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## Public Reminded to Get Car Seats Checked

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city of Harrisonburg reminds residents of the importance to check their child’s safety seats in all vehicles.

Throughout the year, but especially before traveling on summer vacations, residents should remember to have their car seats inspected to ensure they are properly installed.

The city, through the Harrisonburg Fire Department (HFD), offers a unique car seat inspection and education program to area residents.

HFD staffs one full-time child safety seat technician, who teaches families how to transport children correctly and provides assistance in installing and inspecting safety seats.

“We often see seats that are not installed properly and it is usually a minor adjustment that needs to be made but if that child were in a car accident, that minor error could result in life-threatening injuries,” explained Ariel Rodriguez, HFD’s child safety seat technician.

Some of the most common problems that are seen with incorrectly installed seats are that the seat is installed too loose or at the wrong angle, the harness is not on the child properly, or the lower anchors are not being used properly.

Nationally, three out of four car seats are installed incorrectly but locally this number is higher. The city’s safety seat technician can inspect or install a car seat and provide all of the necessary information in 30 minutes or less.

Appointments with the safety seat technician are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Contact Ariel Rodriguez at 540-810-0527 to schedule your appointment today.

Additional information is available at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/child-safety-seat-inspections](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/child-safety-seat-inspections).

*The city of Harrisonburg is home to four **Harrisonburg Fire Department** stations. For more information about each fire station, visit [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/hfd-stations](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/hfd-stations).*



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