



For Immediate Release
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Departments Host Child Car Seat Crunch Event

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department is working with the Safe Kids Central Shenandoah Valley and the Harrisonburg Fire Department to host a “Child Car Seat Crunch Event” to reduce the number of expired and damaged car seats that are in use on the roadways.

Friday, May 11 is Safe Kids Day and a moment for the local coalitions and partners to celebrate kids, prevent injuries, and save lives. Child safety seats have an expiration date of approximately seven years and this information can normally be found printed under the seat. The components of the child safety seat such as the belts, buckles, and plastic areas can become worn and damaged over time.

Caregivers are invited to the child car seat crunch event and encouraged to bring an expired, damaged, or outgrown seat. The old seat will be “crunched” in a city trash truck, while safety seat technicians help teach caregivers how to install the new seat.

Another aspect that caregivers should be aware of is that a child safety seat needs to be replaced if the vehicle that it is installed in was involved in any type of crash. The structure of the car seat could be damaged due to the forces of the crash and become dangerous if continued to be used.

Approximately 73 percent of child safety seats are not installed correctly and a child will outgrow a seat throughout the years.

Child Car Seat Check and Crunch Event Details

Date: Friday, May 11

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Dream Come True Playground, 1050 Neff Ave

To schedule a car seat installation for a later date, please call 540-810-0527, or visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/child-safety-seat-inspections.

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