

## National Child Passenger Safety Week September 12 - 18, 2009



There is a 3 out of 4 chance that your child is not as secure as you think. Child injury prevention advocates statewide are gearing up for National Child Passenger Safety Week with expanded access to check-up events, educational outreach and overtime law enforcement. These efforts continue because motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading cause of death and injury for Oregon children. A child's risk of injury

greatly increases in a crash if they are not appropriately restrained.

Although Oregon has a high safety belt use rate - 96% in 2008, efforts need to continue to ensure that children are riding as safe as possible. This year the focus is on the benefits of using booster seats and the recommendation to keep infants riding rear facing longer.

### *How Can You Help?*

- **Attend a car seat checkup event to make sure your children are riding safely.**  
[Click here](#) to visit our Clinic Calendar for scheduled seat checks in your community.
- **Distribute educational materials** to friends, coworkers, family members and organizations who serve families within your community. [Click here](#) for more details on ordering and downloading educational materials.
- **Write a press release, letter or feature** for a local paper, magazine or newsletter. Logos and print ads are downloadable at: [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS?safetybelts.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS?safetybelts.shtml) or <http://www.nhtsa.gov/childps/planner2009/>
- **Become a child safety seat program volunteer or a trained child passenger safety technician.** In addition to "certified" child passenger safety technicians, volunteers are always needed to assist with hosting or helping at community check-up events.  
[Click here](#) to visit our Training Calendar.

There is a tremendous need for greater public education and awareness of these issues throughout Oregon. Please support our efforts to protect Oregon's smallest travelers.