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Lake Stevens Police and Lake Stevens Fire offer car seat checks to make sure children are safe from auto accidents.

Car seat check stations available at Lake Stevens Fire

JOURNAL STAFF

Did you know car crashes are the leading cause of death for children from three to 14 years old? Many of these deaths can be prevented.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), placing children in age- and size-appropriate car seats and booster seats reduces serious and fatal injuries by more than half.

A car seat check station is held at Lake Stevens Fire on the first Monday of every month by appointment.

Lake Stevens Fire partners with Marysville Fire District and Safe Kids Snohomish County to help you properly fit your car seat and to give you best practice information to facilitate safe traveling with your children.

A second seat check station is available at Marysville Fire District, Station 66 on the third Monday of every month. Lake Stevens Police also offers car seat checks during office hours and encourages citizens to set up an appointment in advance.

To schedule a car seat check, please feel free to call Public Educator Alison Caton at 425.334.3034 or Lake Stevens Police at 425.334.9537. Travel safely.

Helpful hints:

- Adjust the chest clip to armpit level.
- Use either the car's seat belt or LATCH system to lock the car seat. Do not use both systems at the same time.
- Your car seat should not move more than one inch side to side or front to back.
- All car seats have an expiration date. Contact the manufacturer of the seat to find out what the expiration date is for your specific seat.
- Never buy a used car seat and never use a car seat that has been in a crash.
- Do not use any products in the car seat that did not come from the manufacturer. Add-on toys can injure your child in a crash.
- Find where the frontal airbags are in your vehicle by checking the owner's manual. Never put a rear-facing car seat in front of an active airbag. Children are always safest in a back seat.
- Have your car seat checked by a currently certified child passenger safety technician to make sure it is properly installed.