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Saturday, September 23, is National Seat Check Saturday

The Glendale Heights Police Department Is Offering Free Car Seat Checks by Certified Technicians

Glendale Heights, IL — Every year, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) partners with local communities to hold Child Passenger Safety Week, which runs this year from September 17-23. The annual safety week always ends with National Seat Check Saturday, a day for parents and caregivers to receive free instruction on how to correctly install and use the right car seats for their kids. The Glendale Heights Police Department announced today that certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will be offering free car seat safety checks and education to parents and caregivers on Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 300 Civic Center Plaza, Glendale Heights, IL 60139. Technicians will let you know if your children are in the right seats for their ages and sizes, make sure your car seats are installed correctly and explain the importance of registering car seats with the manufacturer so you can be notified if there is a recall.

National Seat Check Saturday is a yearly opportunity for parents to make sure their children are safe in their car seats and booster seats. “People check their tire pressure and change the oil in their vehicles, but neglect to check the equipment that’s meant to protect their kids in a crash,” Chief George Pappas added. “Please don’t wait for a crash to happen to find out if your child’s seat is installed correctly. At that point, it’s too late,” Chief Pappas said, “Let a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician check for you so you can have that peace of mind.”

Chief Pappas added that using age and size appropriate car seats and installing them correctly are the best ways to reduce crash fatalities among children. According to NHTSA, more than a third of children 12 and younger who died in crashes in 2021 in cars, pickups, vans, and SUVs were unbuckled. “Number one rule: Never let your children ride unbuckled — not even on a short trip.”

If Saturday’s times don’t work for your schedule, but you’d still like to have your car seats checked, find out if a technician is available in your community by visiting www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#install-inspection.

NHTSA encourages everyone who drives child passengers to check out its free, online resources at www.nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat.