



Maggie Brooks
County Executive

CHANGES TO THE NYS CHILD RESTRAINT LAW

Effective November 24, 2009 all children under the age of 8 must be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system while riding in a motor vehicle.

- An appropriate child restraint system is one that meets the child's size and weight and the specifications of the manufacturer of such system.
- A child restraint system may be a child safety seat, harness, vest or a booster seat.
- The vehicle's safety belt alone is **NOT** a child restraint system.
- Booster seats **MUST** be used with a lap and shoulder belt.
- Children 12 years and younger should ride in the back seat. The simple task of properly buckling up children in the back seat reduces the risk of being killed in a crash by 33%.

After their 8th birthday, when should you move your child from a booster seat to an adult seat belt?

Your child should stay in a booster seat until the adult seat belt fits him or her properly. Before moving your child from a booster seat to the vehicle seat belt, please make sure that your child meets all of the following requirements for a proper seat belt fit:

1. Your child should be able to sit with his or her back straight against the vehicle seat back.
2. The knees bent comfortably at the seat's edge without slouching.
3. The lap belt should be low across the upper thighs or hips, not across the abdomen.
4. The shoulder belt should lie across the chest and shoulder, not touching the neck or face.
5. Your child should be able to ride this way for the entire trip.

Please contact the Monroe County Office of Traffic Safety with **questions** or to schedule a presentation for your group or organization:

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