ATTENTION

Washington's Child Restraint Law changed on June 1, 2007 and now requires:

- Children under 13 years old must be transported in the back seat.
- Children under 4'9" tall, must be transported in a child restraint system.
- The restraint system must be used according to the car seat AND vehicle manufacturer's instructions.
- Vehicles equipped with lap-only seat belts are exempt from the requirement to use a booster seat.
- Children who are at least 4'9" and who wear a seat belt MUST use it correctly (NOT under the arm or behind the back). A fine of \$124 may be issued to you if you have children improperly restrained in your vehicle.

Our Mission Statement

Serving People
Saving Life
Protecting Property



It is our privilege to serve you!

LAKE STEVENS FIRE

1825 South Lake Stevens Road Lake Stevens, WA 98258

> Phone: 425.334.3034 Fax: 425.334.6981 www.lsfire.org

Commissioners

Troy Elmore • Paul Gagnon • Jim Steinruck
Fire Chief Kevin K. O'Brien

Lake Stevens Fire

Touching Lives Today ~ **Planning for Tomorrow**

Car Seat Check



Car Seat Check Locations

Call for an Appointment!!**

Cascade Valley Hospital & Clinics 360.435.6525

Granite Falls Fire District 17 360 691 5553

Lake Stevens Fire 425.334.3034

Lake Stevens Police Department 425.334.9537

Lynnwood Police Department 425.670.5710

Monroe Police Department*

*Spanish speaking technicians 360.794.6300

Snohomish County Fire District I

So. Everett, Mountlake Terrace, Edmonds, Brier & Woodway 425.551.1250

Snohomish County Fire District 7

Mill Creek / Clearview area 360.282.4023

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

425.388.3393 or 425.367.2813

**Please Note: A car seat check appointment can take 30-60 minutes depending on the type of vehicle and car seat.

What to Bring: Vehicle Owner's Manual and Car Seat Instruction Manual

What You Need to Know About Booster Seats

Children under 4'9" need to ride in a booster seat. Why don't adults under 4'9" have to do the same?



Children and adults are totally different in terms of physical development. Adults, no matter their height or weight, have fully mature bodies which means they can withstand the impact of a crash more so than a child. Smaller children who are still developing and don't fit properly in seat belts are at high risk for injury in the event of a crash. For this reason, it is especially important that children under 4'9" ride in booster seats to ensure the proper fit of seat belts and to decrease the risk of injury.

If your child fails any of the 5 points below, they must ride in a booster seat:

- I. The child can sit all the way back in the seat.
- 2. His/her legs fold over the seat.
- 3. The lap belt lays over the thighs and pelvis, not over the stomach.
- 4. The shoulder belt lays over the clavicle and doesn't cut into the neck.
- 5. The child can stay in this position for the duration of the ride without slouching.

For maximum child passenger safety, follow the 4 Stages for Kids:

1. Keep infants rear-facing as long as possible (until they reach the upper weight or height of the seat in the rear-facing position)



2. When children outgrow their rear-facing seats, they should ride in forward-facing child safety seats until they reach the upper weight or height limit of the particular seat.



3. Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat, they should ride in booster seats, in the back seat, until they are 4'9" tall.



4. When children outgrow their booster seats, they can use the adult seat belt in the back seat, if it fits properly (lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt across the chest). Children must remain in the back seat of a vehicle until they are 13 years of age unless all seats are in the back are occupied by younger children or if there is no back seat (such as in trucks).

For more information on passenger safety, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's website: www.nhtsa.gov