



LICENSING LINK

Important Information Please Read Carefully

Crib Standards and Compliance - Must Meet New Standard:

Providers, per Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.146 subs. 2, effective December 28, 2012, any crib used or accessible to any child in your care must meet new and improved federal safety standards-title 16, part CFR 1219 for full size cribs and title 16, part CFR 1220 for non full size cribs. As a licensed program, a certificate of compliance meeting new federal standards will be required as documentation, and the crib must have the label attached with the date of manufacture in order to match the certificate to the product. New cribs may contain a permanent marking somewhere on the crib and this marking will document the date of manufacture and the manufacturer.

Effective December 28, 2012, all cribs that are used by or are accessible to any child in care must either have a permanent marking on the crib showing that the date of manufacture was after June 28, 2011; or manufacturer documentation of compliance for each crib must be provided.

Per Department of Human Services, documentation of compliance must be one of the following:

1. A registration card showing date of manufacture after June 28, 2011, or;
2. Certificate of Compliance (COC), General Conformity Certificate (GCC) or Children's Product Certificate (CPC) - all three are synonymous.

Note: A crib with one of these certificates may have been manufactured prior to June 29, 2011. In that case, the certificate must specify that the crib is certified to comply with 16 CFR 1220 or 16 CFR 1219 to be considered compliant with the new Federal Standards. **Purchase receipts alone are NOT sufficient documentation of compliance.**

These new standards do not apply to mesh sided port-a-cribs or playpens, which family child care providers are still allowed to use as long as they meet the crib safety requirements under Minnesota Statutes, sections 245A.146 and 245A.1435.

Noncompliant cribs should not be resold, donated or given away. CPSC recommends disassembling the crib before discarding it in a manner that the crib cannot be reassembled and used again. **Scott County Child Care Licensing will keep you updated on any new information received on this subject.**

Continue on page 2



**Scott County
Child Care Licensing**

Summer July, 2012

Inside this issue:

Important Information -Safe Sleep, Fine Recommendation, Transportation Training Clarification Corner, What is New on Child Care License Website	2,3
Article by Becki Fonder	4
Article by Tom Copeland - Bad Weather Close Your Daycare Free Trainings Offered by Scott County	5
Meena's Corner - Bullying	6,7



Important Information Please Read Carefully

Continued from page 1

***** After December 28, 2012, licensors will be issuing correction order for being out of compliance if cribs used for daycare children do not meet new safety standards. Providers are given enough notice time to have those non compliant cribs replaced.

SAFE SLEEP - LOWER THE RISK OF SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS)

Effective August 1, 2009, Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.1435 Reduction of Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in licensed programs requires the following:

- (a) When a license holder is placing an infant to sleep, the license holder must place the infant on the infant's back, unless the license holder has documentation from the infant's parent directing an alternative sleeping position for the infant. The parent directive must be on a form approved by the commissioner and must include a statement that the parent or legal guardian has read the information provided by the Minnesota Sudden Infant Death Center, related to the risk of SIDS and the importance of placing an infant or child on its back to sleep to reduce the risk of SIDS.
- (b) The license holder must place the infant in a crib directly on a firm mattress with a fitted crib sheet that fits tightly on the mattress and overlaps the mattress so it cannot be dislodged by pulling on the corner of the sheet. The license holder must not place pillows, quilts, comforters, sheepskin, pillow-like stuffed toys, or other soft products in the crib with the infant. **The requirements of this section applies to license holder serving infants up to and including 12 months of age.** Licensed child care providers must meet the crib requirements under section 245A.146.

Correction order will be issued for the following things:

- * **If licensor finds a sleeping infant in a crib with a blanket, stuffed toys, or any other type of "soft product" - for not following SIDS protocol.**
- * **If licensor finds a infant asleep anywhere else other than approved sleep space (approved crib or port-a crib)**

If a crib is being used only for storing blankets, or toys and is not being used for sleeping infant, providers will not receive any correction order.

Article by Laurie Wolf "**SIDS PROTOCOL**" was sent to all the providers via email or via mail has lots of important information with checklist of "DO's and "Don'ts." This article can be found on the Child Care License Website under "Articles by Licensors - Helpful Hints." If you have any questions , please refer to this article or call your licensor .

Fine Recommendation by Scott County Child Care Licensing:

Many of you did receive following information via email earlier. For those who do not have internet access, we would like to inform you that **Scott County will be recommending fines to the Department of Human Services for the following Rule Violations:**

1. **Not submitting a background study on an individual age 13 and over that is living or working in the household per Minnesota Statutes 245C.03.**
 - (a) The commissioner shall conduct a background study on:
 - (1) the person or persons applying for a license
 - (2) an individual age 13 and over living in household where the licensed program will be provided
 - (3) current or prospective employees or contractors of the applicant who will have direct contact with persons served by the facility, agency, or program.

Continue on page 3

Important Information Please Read Carefully

Continued from page 2

2. License holders, substitutes, caregivers and helpers not completing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome training prior to assisting with the care of infants and not completing Shaken Baby Syndrome training prior to assisting with the care of children under school age per Minnesota Statutes 245A.50. License holders need to provide verification that the training was completed.

(a) License holders must document that before staff persons, caregivers, and helpers assist in the care of infants, they are instructed on the standards in section 245A.1435 and receive training on reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. In addition, license holders must document that before staff persons, caregivers, and helpers assist in the care of infants and children under school age, they receive training on reducing the risk of Shaken Baby Syndrome. The training in this subdivision may be provided as initial training under subdivision 1 or ongoing annual training under subdivision 7.

3. Not following SIDS protocol as discussed in a previous e-mail or mail sent out from Scott County and per direction from Department of Human Services.

Effective immediately, DHS is requesting that counties recommend a fine for any substantiated infant sleep violation under MN Statutes, section 245A.1435. Pursuant to MN Statutes, section 245A.07, subd. 3 (c) (4), license holders shall pay a fine of \$200 for each occurrence of law or rule governing matters of health, safety or supervision. The recommendation for a fine is in addition to other recommendation made by the county based on the nature, severity, and chronicity of licensing violation; and the effect of the violations on the health, safety or rights of children being served.

Transportation Training for License Holder for Daycare Children Under Age 9:

Providers, once you receive your training certificate after completing "Child Passenger Restraint System," training, please, send a copy of your certificate to your licensor right away. Your licensor will submit this training update to Department of Human Services so your child care license would reflect having this training completed.

If a family child care license holder has not received the training on Child Passenger Restraint System or does not wish to transport children in care, their daycare license must reflect "No Transporting Children Under 9." In addition their written policies must also reflect this decision and should state that they may not transport daycare children. Their policy must identify their plan for transportation in the event of an emergency, such as "calling 911 or calling parents." Under no circumstances should license holders provide transportation if the license states "No Transporting Children Under Age 9" and that way their policy and decision is clear to all parents in the program. Per MN statutes 245A.50 Subd. 6 providers are required to take this training every 5 years if they wish to transport daycare children under age 9.

Clarification Corner

Can a provider use "Quilted" Sheets for their Pac-n-Play or Port-a-Crib?

Answer to this question is "NO." Per DHS direction, quilted sheets cannot be used on pac-n-play or port-a-crib used for daycare children during daycare hours. **Providers must follow SIDS protocol that says the license holder must not place pillows, quilts, comforters, sheepskin, pillow-like stuffed toys, or other soft products in the crib with the infants.**

What Is New On Child Care License Website?

We have added Free - CPR and 1st Aid Training.

Allina of Shakopee offers free CPR and 1st Aid training throughout Scott County in provider's own home if providers have eight or more participants. Contact Gregory Jones at
Gregory.jones@allina.com

We have added the contact information with fees for Transportation Training class. **Both the trainings will be found on Child Care License website under CCL Links - Training Resources**

Article By Becki Fonder (Early Childhood Educator)

Edgewood School: 5304 Westwood Dr. SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Early Childhood Update



Early Childhood Family Education

Have you discovered this important resource for childcare providers and the families of children in their care? Each school district in the state of Minnesota has an Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program ready to share research-based information on child development and behavior topics, as well as curriculum and activity ideas. The Prior Lake-Savage ECFE program is working to strengthen the connection between childcare providers, families and the school district. We are offering trainings and workshop times throughout the school year for childcare providers. Providers can also access information through email or by a requested home-visit.

This past April, the Prior Lake-Savage School District's ECFE program hosted training for childcare providers at Edgewood School in Prior Lake. The class offered information and resources on developmental milestones and the importance of addressing concerns with families early. Experts from the field presented information and answered questions from providers. The providers also were able to use the Edgewood's die-cut machines, laminators and copier during workshop time after the presentation.

We are excited to offer a series of three more trainings and workshop times for childcare providers coming up during the 2012-2013 school year. The topics are:

Fall 2012- Curriculum Ideas

Winter 2013- Technology and Screen Time

Spring 2013- Temperament and Age-Appropriate Behaviors.

Please email Becki Fonder at rfonder@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us

Or call 952 226 0933 for information on the upcoming trainings. Messages will be checked weekly during July and August.

Scott County ECFE Program Numbers:

Prior Lake-Savage 952 226 0950

Shakopee 952 496 5000

Jordan 952 492 6200

New Prague 952 758 1200

Belle Plaine 952 873 2400

Technology and Interactive Media

Children are increasingly exposed to screen time in many ways every day. From t.v. and computers to games and phones, digital devices are integrated in young children's lives. What are the possible effects on children and this new exposure of screen time? How can the adults in their lives make wise and informed decisions about technology and interactive media? In January 2012, two well respected groups on Early Childhood Development; the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Fred Rogers Center, drafted a position statement on technology and interactive media.

"Television was once the newest technology in our homes, and then came videos and computers. Today's children are growing up in a rapidly changing digital age that is far different from that of their parents and grandparents. ...When used wisely, technology and media can support learning and relationships. Enjoyable and engaging shared experiences that optimize the potential for children's learning and development can support children's relationships both with adults and peers." (NAEYC and Fred Rogers Center.)

Read more of this position statement developed by experts in the field of child development at www.naeyc.org and

www.fredrogerscenter.org

When Bad Weather Close your Daycare!!!!

Excerpt taken from Tom Copeland

Bad weather and natural events such as a tornado, hurricane, snowstorm, flood or earthquake can have an adverse impact on your family child care business. They can damage your home and property that may force you to close down your business for a day or more. **Does your contract or policies address these situations?** Your paramount concern is the safety of children. You should always consider whether to close your business when the weather makes it too dangerous for parents to get to your home or for children to stay in your home.



Telling parents you will be closed in anticipation of a storm or asking parents to pick up their children early because of the approach of bad weather may be the right decision to keep children safe. Since you are liable for injuries to children while they are in your care, you want to make sure your home is a safe place at all times. Your policies should spell out whether or not parents will be expected to pay for days that you are closed because of bad weather. It's up to you not to charge in these situations. In general, I would say that it's reasonable to charge when closed for a day or two, but not for much longer. Discuss how you will handle the approach of bad weather with parents when they enroll their children and review your policy annually. If a parent suffers financial hardship because of bad weather, it may be difficult for her to pay for child care for a short time. Some child care providers will forgive some or all payment until the parent

can get back on her feet. Whether or not you have anticipated such situations in your contract or policies, you always have the option of relaxing your rules in an emergency.

Tax Consequences

If you forgive payments by parents because of bad weather, this is not a business deduction. You would report less income at tax time. If a power outage causes you to lose food stored in your refrigerator or freezer, or if a storm causes damage to your property and home that is not covered by insurance, you can use the casualty loss rules to deduct the business portion of these expenses.

FREE TRAINING

Adult Supervision Required

Scott County is offering free 2 hour class of training course on **Supervision**. Supervision issues are one of the most common complaints received by our agency. Failure to properly supervise children is also the basis for issuance of many correction orders or negative actions taken against licensed providers. Our goal is to reduce the number of incidents that result from inadequate or improper supervision, reinforce the effective practices being implemented and give you new strategies to supervise day care children. **To register, please call 952-445-7751 and ask to speak to someone in licensing or send email to Nancy Berndt at nberndt@co.scott.mn.us or to Jacque Froemke at jfroemke@co.scott.mn.us**

Class size is limited so register early.

When: Monday, October 8, 2012 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Where: The Scott County Government Center (follow the sign)

FREE TRAINING

I Never Thought My Child Would Do That !!!!!

Scott County Child Care Licensing is offering again two hour class of free training called "I Never Thought My Child Would Do That". This training will cover what happens if a daycare child makes allegations of sexual abuse against your own child. The training will review the investigation process and the impact it could cause on your business and your family. It will also include strategies on how to reduce the risks of this happening in your home.

To register, please send email to Nancy Berndt at nberndt@co.scott.mn.us or call 952-496-8405. Class size is limited so register early.

When: Monday, September 24, 2012

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Where: The Scott County Government Center (Follow the sign)

MEENA'S CORNER

BULLYING - YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This was news on TV that in upstate New York a bus monitor, an elderly lady was a target of bullying behavior from 14 year middle school children. She was brought to tears by student's put-downs about her weight, age, livelihood and more.

The recent suicide of a 14-year-old middle school student has once again put the spotlight on a new "epidemic"—online bullying. This 14 year old attended Cascade Middle School in Vancouver, Wash., reportedly hugged her father and told him "I love you, Daddy, goodnight," before hanging herself. Her friends and sister told reporters that this girl had endured years of bullying—both online and in the classroom—and her family believes it ultimately led her to commit suicide. Bullying can bring fear and hopelessness into the life of an innocent child. It is sad that this tragedy could have been prevented if someone had recognized the signs of bullying and intervened and put a stop to the bullying behavior.

What is bullying?

Bullying can begin as early as preschool age and this behavior can continue into child's adult life if no one puts a stop to it. Bullying is basically a deliberate act towards someone, to hurt or to intimidate that person, who is perceived as being weaker. Bullying includes behaviors such as teasing, taunting, spreading rumors and gossip, name calling, or excluding someone from a group. Bullying actions are carried out on purpose with the intent to harm someone. It does not take a child long to realize that his or her aggressive behavior will intimidate or frighten other children. Bullying is repeated activity and it always involves a power imbalance. Typically those who engage in bully-like behaviors use their strength, popularity or power to harm, control or manipulate others. They will usually target those who are weaker or may have a difficult time defending themselves. The bully thinks the whole world centers around them and is only concerned with their own wants and needs with no regard for anyone in the way. Bullies have no respect for others and they are more likely to resort to violence to solve problem.

Is bullying just a normal part of growing up? Many people believe that bullying is a harmless childhood activity and a normal part of growing up that every one experiences it at one time or the other. You will find bullies in all areas of life, in school, in college, and in work place. Children at a very young age learn how to communicate with each other, practice many social skills they need to get along with their peers. And yes, this is where many children first observe or experience early forms of bullying behavior. In learning how to communicate with each other, it is natural for children to argue among friends, or get angry or frustrated with one another or play fight but when it turns into power game where one person has more power and uses it to hurt or frighten another person, it becomes a bullying situation. Constant name calling, threats, physical abuse, and gossip can leave a child seriously hurt and depressed and can affect person seriously for the rest of their lives.

Who is involved with bullying? Why some children bully? Bullying affects virtually all children in different capacity. In bullying situations there are 3 different groups of people who are involved. There are some who are bully, then some who are being bullied and then there are some who we call bystanders.

The bully - he is leader. Most bullying behavior develops in response to many factors involving environment at home, school and within peer group. To cope with the difficult situation at home like divorce in the family or death of close family members, child starts bullying someone outside of the home or child who observe parents and siblings exhibiting bullying behavior, or who are victims themselves, are likely to develop bullying behaviors. Bullying behavior is reinforced when it has no or inconsistent consequences. Adult supervision is very important to keep that aggressive behavior in check. Many a times other children observing bully's success are likely join in.

Continue on page 7

MEENA'S CORNER

Continued from page 6

Some children may bully in an effort to "fit in," even though they may be uncomfortable with the behavior. Children who bully and continue this behavior as adults have greater difficulty developing and maintaining positive relationship. Research shows that without effective intervention, children who regularly bully others may grow up to become perpetrators of domestic violence, child abuse, hate crimes and many other illegal behavior.

The person being bullied - usually is small in size, from different race, appear physically or emotionally weak, person is either overweight or underweight, or handicapped with less power. This person has very low self esteem and thinks something is wrong with him. Keeps himself isolated from rest of the world. This person does not have coping skills to protect themselves from bullying situation and feels hopelessness. The feeling of hopelessness could lead to suicide.

Bystanders - are the one who can break a situation or make situation worse. Bullying is hard on kids who witness someone else being bullied because it can make them feel guilty or helpless for not standing up to bully. Bystanders do not want to get involved in bullying situation, fearing they might be the next victim or they think others may laugh and make fun of them. Some are afraid to report or tell someone about it because they do not want others to think they are tattling.

Types of bullying:

Verbal: This type of bullying usually involves name calling against races or teasing.

Social: Spreading rumors, intentionally leaving others out of activities on purpose.

Physical: This form of bullying involves hitting, punching, shoving.

Cyber Bullying: This method of bullying involves using the internet to spread rumors, texting or sending nasty instant messages, sending abusive emails, or forwarding supposedly private messages, pictures, or video to others to harm others.

Role of child care provider in preventing Bullying in child care settings:

Now a days when both the parents are working outside of the home, most children spend 80% of their day time, 5 days a week either in home child care facility or in child care center. This is where they learn most of their social skills, positive behaviors as well as some negative behaviors. Child care settings are where many children first observe or experience early forms of bullying behavior. Children and adults sometimes find it difficult to recognize bullying. The first step to prevent bullying is to recognize bullying. Caregivers can play a critical role in determining whether early bullying behavior escalates and spreads, or is reduced to isolated incidents. To prevent bullying from escalating, caregivers can prepare themselves with effective **strategies** to deal with bullying incidents-before, during, and after they occur. They can also look ahead and take steps to create an environment that supports respect, where bullying is neither accepted nor tolerated. Finally, caregivers can help children learn the social skills they need to deal effectively with bullying, when it occurs. Let them know that strong feelings, such as anger, frustration, and fear are acceptable, **but violence is never ok**. Communicate clear discipline policies and follow through that discipline. Every child should know that unkind acts will result in immediate discipline. Help them learn non-hurtful ways to express their feelings. Correcting these behaviors before they start or get out of hand are important for caregivers and parents to keep in mind. Find concrete ways to teach children the skills they need to solve the problems. Encourage children to show their own feelings and tell each other how they feel about bullying and related behaviors.

With internet access, i-phone, and text messages, young children have become very tech-savvy. It can be used as a learning tool in school or it is the best way to stay connected with the friends, but this can also expose young children to cyber bullying. Teach children appropriate social skills for online communication, remind them not to give out their personal information, set age-appropriate boundaries for use of internet and above all create open and honest relationships with young children so they feel comfortable coming to you when problem arise. **Caregivers' your ultimate responsibility is to keep children safe. This includes maintaining an environment that is bully free.**



Scott County
Child Care Licensing

Government Center 300
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, MN 55379



A Child Care Provider

*A substitute for working moms, She comforts, pampers,
Soothes, and calms.*

*With all the love she has to share,
She's great to have when mom's not there.*

She loves to rock a fussy child, corrects the one who gets too wild.

*She hears her share of tearful pleas,
And comforts those with skinned up knees.*

*With little children she plays peek,
For bigger ones, it's hide and seek.*

*She is an expert at each game,
But somehow loses just the same.
She help them learn the alphabet,
And gives them hugs when they're upset.*

*She gently tucks them in their beds,
With dreamland tales for sleepyheads.*

*She is a true and trusted friend,
Who helps them learn and play pretend.
Although she's paid, it's plain to see,
She serves them with a love that's free.*



By Larry Howland