

Child Related Oregon Safety Laws

Smoke Alarms - effective Jan 1, 2002

Ionization smoke alarms that are solely battery-operated shall be packaged with a 10-year battery. Ionization smoke alarms must include a “hush” mechanism allowing temporary disengagement for up to 15 minutes.



Carbon Monoxide Alarms – effective June 25, 2009

Prohibits transferring title to one and two family dwelling or multifamily housing that has carbon monoxide source unless dwelling or housing is equipped with carbon monoxide alarm.

Cribs – Oregon law effective July 6, 2001, Federal requirements effective June 28, 2011

Prohibits selling a crib at a garage sale, estate sale, or second hand store that does not meet the safety standards established in ORS 646A.506. Federal requirements prohibit drop-side cribs, requires stronger wood slats, hardware must have anti-loosening devices and mattress support must be more durable.



Novelty Lighters – effective June 2009

Prohibits the selling or distribution of novelty (toylike) lighters in Oregon.



Life Jackets - effective in 1998

No person shall operate a boat on Oregon waters with a child age 12 and under unless the child is wearing a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device(PFD)/life jacket while the boat is underway.



Safety Belts - effective November 1990

All motor vehicle operators and passengers must be properly secured with a safety belt or safety harness, unless all safety-belt equipped seating positions are occupied by other persons.

Child Restraints – last revision January 1, 2011

Children must be restrained in an approved child safety seat until they weigh 40 pounds. Infants must ride rear-facing until they are one year of age *and* over 20 pounds. Child passengers over 40 pounds or who reach the upper weight limit of their car seat’s harness system, must be restrained in a booster seat until they are 4’9” tall *or* 8 years of age.



Pick-Up Trucks - effective November 2003

Children under 18 years of age are prohibited from riding in the open bed of a pick-up truck.

Cell Phone and Text Messaging – effective January 1, 2012

Prohibits texting and use of handheld cell phones for all drivers with the exception of police, emergency responders and drivers in emergency situations. Novice drivers are prohibited from all cell phone use.



ATVs – effective Jan. 1, 2008, additional training required in 2012

Anyone under the age of 16 operating an ATV on public lands is required to be supervised by an adult over the age of 18. Also, anyone under the age of 18 must wear a helmet and have the chin strap fastened. Youth are required to have on-line safety training and hands-on rider training.

Bicycle Helmets - effective on July 1, 1994

Any youth under age 16 riding a bike or when a passenger on a bike in any public place (streets, roads, sidewalks, parks, etc.) must wear helmets labeled ANSI and/or Snell approved.



Safety Helmets – effective on July 1, 2004

Any youth under age 16 riding on skateboards, scooters and in-line skates in any public place (streets, roads, sidewalks, parks, etc.) must wear a safety helmet labeled ANSI and/or Snell approved.

Sports-Related Concussion Training – effective July 7, 2009

Requires coaches of school athletic teams to receive annual training on how to recognize symptoms of Concussion and seek proper medical treatment for person suspected from having concussion.



For more information, contact:

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8/2012