

Wright County Daycare Newsletter

July 2013

Stand Alone Bassinets Not Allowed as Infant Sleep Space

Wright County recently consulted with the Department of Human Services in regards to the use of bassinets in child care. We have been told that stand alone bassinets cannot be used as an infant sleep space. DHS cited:

Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.1435

REDUCTION OF RISK OF SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME IN LICENSED PROGRAMS.



(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 apply to license holders serving infants up to and including 12 months of age. Licensed child care providers must meet the crib requirements under section 245A.146.

DHS considers a crib to be either a rigid constructed crib or a fabric sided (mesh or fabric) crib only. A bassinet is not included in the definition of a crib and therefore cannot be used in family child care.

The ONLY time a bassinet can be used is if it is a bassinet insert that is part of a play yard or pack and play system, and the manufacturer's instructions are followed completely for weight, height, age limits, etc. General instructions for these type of inserts is that they cannot be used if the infant is 15 pounds or heavier, is pushing themselves up, or is 3 months of age or older.

Please feel free to contact your licensor with questions.

Crib Sheet Reminder

Our October 2012 newsletter contained a variety of information regarding the new federal crib standards and documentation. We also included information regarding the requirement for crib sheets in cribs, portable cribs and pack and plays.

Sheets are required on all cribs, pack and plays or play yards in use, regardless of the age of child using the equipment.

Please refer to the October 2012 newsletter or contact your licensor with question.

Correction orders are being issued for cribs without sheets.

Past newsletters are available for review on the Wright County website.

<http://www.co.wright.mn.us/departement/humanservices/daycare.asp#newsletters>



Age Appropriate Play Equipment

The weather is finally cooperating, and everyone is excited to spend more time outside! Providers are able to go for walks, let kids run through the sprinkler and explore new parks. As you are enjoying your outside activities make sure you take a quick look at the equipment that the children are using. Pay close attention to the age guidelines for park equipment. The equipment is often separated between ages 2-5 and ages 5-12. It would not be appropriate or safe for a child under the age of 5 to use playground equipment that is rated for ages 5 and older. For the safety of the children and for your own liability, remember to read the labels.



Rule Reminder



9502.0435 SANITATION AND HEALTH

Subp. 4. Toxic substances.

All medicines, chemicals, detergents, poisonous plants, alcoholic beverages, and other toxic substances must be inaccessible to children. They must be stored away from food products. Equipment or toys which are mouthed or may be chewed must be free of lead-based paint. Toys and equipment with chipped, cracked, or peeling paint must be tested to verify the absence of lead or be replaced.



Please make sure that you are checking the labels of personal care items that are accessible to children in care.

Items that state that they need to be kept out of reach of children, must remain inaccessible to children during child care hours.

This could include some types of toothpaste, face wash, shampoo, etc.



Portable Cribs Not Meshing Properly?

The Department of Human Services (DHS) recently informed licensing that child care providers can no longer repair small holes in mesh-sided cribs. DHS contacted manufacturers of mesh-sided portacribs, and learned they do not recommend any alterations to the product. One company stated it cannot guarantee that the alteration made will hold up to their safety standards. They also indicated that if a crib is damaged outside the one year warranty for manufacturers' defect, the product should be replaced.

Effective immediately,
if you have a mesh or fabric-sided play yard
or pack and play that has an unrepaired hole or a
hole that has been previously repaired you need to
discontinue using that crib and purchase a new crib for child care.



On February 28, 2013, new safety standards went into effect that apply to all play yard/mesh-sided cribs manufactured after this date. DHS has advised that as long as the play yards or mesh-sided cribs currently used have not been recalled by Consumer Product Safety Commission and they meet the requirements of Minnesota Statute 245A.146, they do not need to be replaced. Check out this website regarding the recent changes to the play yards at <http://www.cpsc.gov/onsafety/2013/02/play-yards-new-safety-rule-to-take-effect/>

KEEP BABY SAFE IN PLAY YARD SPACE

Starting February 28, 2013, testing for play yards will be more rigorous.

Play yards that meet new safety standards must have:

Side rails that resist forming a sharp V when folded to prevent strangulation



Stronger corner brackets to prevent sharp-edged cracks and side rail collapse

Sturdier mattress attachments to the play yard floor to prevent entrapments and injuries

SAFE SLEEP TIPS:

- Always place baby on back to sleep.
- Only use the mattress sold with the play yard.
- Keep pillows, quilts, comforters, and cushions out of play yards, cribs, and bassinets.
- Dress baby in footed pajamas for warmth.

A play yard is a framed enclosure with a floor and mesh or fabric side panels. It may be folded for storage or travel. It is primarily intended to provide a play or sleeping environment for children who are less than 35 inches tall who cannot climb out of the product.



www.CPSC.gov

Upcoming Training

50 Frequently Asked Questions

The cost is \$18 (non-refundable). Instructors: Wright County Licensors. To register, contact Tammy Romer, Wright County Human Services, at 763-682-7488 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7488, or Tamara.Romer@co.wright.mn.us

This training will address the most frequently asked questions from child care providers to licensing staff. Everything from: When do I need to exclude a child due to illness, to how often do we need to view the SBS video? This training is an excellent opportunity for new providers to get their questions answered, and for seasoned providers to clarify licensing rules of which they may not be sure.

Date	Time	Location	Room
08/20/2013	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Wright County Government Center, 10 2nd Street NW, Buffalo	120A/B

C.A.R.S. (Children and Restraint Systems)

To make sure there is available space in each class, you must pre-register by calling Terri Burkhardt at 763-682-7516 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7516, or e-mail Terri.Burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us. Class fee is \$15 for Wright County Day Care/Foster Care providers, \$20 for providers outside of Wright County, and \$20 for Law Enforcement personnel. Pay fee prior to class by calling Terri Burkhardt at 763-682-7516 or 1-800-362-3667, ext. 7516. Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of ten participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. More child safety seat information is available at [Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety](#). [Available trainings elsewhere in the state.](#)

Date	Time	Location	Room
07/24/2013	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Wright County Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Drive, Buffalo	127
09/25/2013	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	Wright County Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Drive, Buffalo	127

SBS (Shaken Baby Syndrome) and SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Training

Please register by calling Terri Burkhardt at 763-682-7516 or e-mail Terri.Burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us. If you are not familiar with the training location, please ask for directions and plan extra travel time. Training does not have to be taken in the county in which you are licensed. Registration is required one week prior to class in order to make sure that enough materials and space are available. Total cost for both classes is \$15.00. Payment can be taken over the phone.

Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of 10 participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. It is mandated to view the SBS video during this class. Because of this requirement, there is no admittance to class after 6:05 p.m. for evening classes.

SIDS is the leading cause of death for infants one month of age to one year. During this training, you will learn ways to reduce the risk of SIDS. Shaken Baby Syndrome is a form of physical child abuse. During this training, you will learn SBS injuries that can occur when a child is violently shaken, characteristics of infant crying, and how to cope with crying and difficult stages of development.

Date	Time	Location	Room
07/16/2013	10 a.m. to 12 Noon	Wright County Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Drive, Buffalo	127
09/17/2013	10 a.m. to 12 Noon	Wright County Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Drive, Buffalo	127
09/18/2013	6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Wright County Human Services Center, 1004 Commercial Drive, Buffalo	127

Training is also available through Child Care Aware of MN.

To find a complete list of training throughout the area, visit www.mnstreams.org



2013 Legislative Action Highlights

Legislation affecting child care was signed by Governor Dayton on May 23, 2013. Official interpretation and implementation directions will be issued by the Department of Human Services (DHS) once they have time to review the massive documents. Licensing will provide a full list of Legislative updates once available. The following are some of the most notable areas addressed: **New and increased training requirements will not go into effect until there is statewide accessibility to the required provider training.*

- Name change: SIDS is now Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)
- Name Change: Shaken Baby Syndrome is now Abusive Head Trauma (AHT)
- To reduce SUID, licensed providers must have a **Physician's** statement for an alternate infant sleep position. A form will be developed by DHS, and must be kept in the child's records. **Nothing may be placed in an infant's crib except for a pacifier.**
- Notification requirements regarding child care liability insurance have increased.
- SUID and AHT training must be repeated annually.
- Child development, behavior guidance and supervision training will become an annual requirement.
- First Aid and CPR training will be required to be repeated every 2 years.
- Ongoing training will increase to 16 hours per year for the license holder and each primary caregiver. Required training will count toward the annual training hours.
- New clarification regarding the use of swaddling, documentation of infants rolling over, and recommendations for checking on sleeping infants.

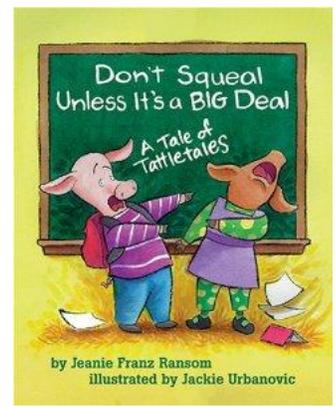
Staying Informed of Regulations

Licensed child care providers are professionals and independent business owners. Knowing the regulations that pertain to your business is an essential responsibility, enabling you to remain in compliance with all the latest standards. The following identified MN legislation affects licensed family child care providers. To obtain the most current versions of these regulations, go to the identified websites. *This list is NOT all-inclusive.

- MN Administrative Rule, Chapter 9502, Parts 9502.0300-9502.0445. This has been the long-standing rule for Family Child Care. More recently, other legislation has superseded the original rules regulating child care. It sets licensing standards for family child care homes to provide for the protection, proper care, health, safety and development of child enrolled in child care. (www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=9502)
- MN Statutes, Chapter 245A of the Human Services Licensing Act. Most of the ongoing changes affecting child care are made here. It defines the application process, sanctions, due process, training requirements and much more. (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=245A)
- MN Statutes, Chapter 245C of the Human Services Background Studies Act. This contains all the laws that pertain to the background studies and disqualifications for applicants, license holders and subject affiliated with the program. (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=245C)
- MN Statutes, Chapter 13 of the MN Government Data Practices Act. It defines data and guides the handling of data. (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13)
- MN Statutes 626.556 Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors. This defines abuse and neglect, specifies reporting responsibilities and investigation duties. (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=626.556)
- MN Statute 144.414 Prohibitions. This covers smoking prohibitions in child care settings. (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=144.414)
- MN Administrative Rules, Chapter 4717 Environmental Health. This establishes regulations for pool usage in public settings, which includes family child care. (www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=4717)

DON'T SQUEAL UNLESS IT'S A BIG DEAL

By Jeanie Ransom, Magination Press, 2006



Perhaps one of the most annoying things that children do is tattle.

Guaranteed to drive parents and teachers crazy, the tattler may be motivated by wanting to look like "the good child," or to be appreciated as helpful, to get back at another child, especially a bigger sibling, or even to just get some attention.

Tattletales become distinctly unattractive to other children, who won't play with someone who commonly says, "I'm telling!" One of our goals with children is to help them learn how to solve problems on their own, while encouraging them to use adult assistance when they really need to. This humorous book, for preschoolers and primary grade children, tells the story of nineteen students in Mrs. McNeal's class, all of whom were tattletales.

After the teacher's patience has worn out, she decides to add a new rule for the class—Don't Squeal unless it's a Big Deal, explaining that most problems that happen between kids are kid-sized problems that they can work out for themselves, usually by talking, listening, and helping each other.

When something happens, however, that's bigger than a kid-sized problem, like when someone is hurt or in danger, or when a person is hurting them or has something that doesn't belong to the individual, it's an emergency, and that's when it's okay to get help from the grownup.

The story gives children a chance to practice the new rule, and they learn firsthand when squealing is a good idea.

Often adults mistakenly assume that ignoring tattling is the best approach, or they may simply cut it off, saying, "I don't want to hear any more about this. Your job is to worry about you."

These tactics are usually not very effective, as children need to learn skills and strategies to handle small problems on their own, and to distinguish them from the big stuff.

An experienced preschool teacher friend tells me that she usually acknowledges children's tattles with a simple, "Thank you." This doesn't commit herself to any course of action, but does recognize the child's awareness of a rule, of learning right from wrong, and may be enough to remind the child that (s)he can handle it.

If the child still seems disturbed, she asks, "Was he getting hurt? Was anyone else getting hurt? Was anything being broken?" and so on, to help the child sort out the issue.

After this, she may prompt with, "Is there something you could do about solving that problem for yourself?"

With youngest children, adults may need to respond by teaching specific steps to take when someone annoys them, such as talking to other children directly about how the behavior makes them feel or what they need, walking away from the problem or finding alternative toys or activities.

It may also be important to give support in the beginning while children try out these strategies, such as "I'm going to help you tell your sister instead of telling me about it."

Learning to distinguish between big deal and small-sized problems and what to do about each is an important lesson that will last a lifetime.