Child Safety Seat Program

It is essential that every person caring for a child or infant understand the proper installation and use of a child safety seat/restraint system. Because the sheriff's department feels so strongly about the need to educate the public on this issue, we have certified several people as instructors. Those employees are Deputy Mike Matoushek and Deputy Kelly Cotter.

Community training can be scheduled by contacting Deputy Matoushek at 920-386-4108.

Types of car safety seats at a glance

The chart below is a quick guide on where to start your search, however, it is important to know more about the features and how to use your car safety seat.

Age	Type of Seat	General Guideline
Infants/Toddlers	Rear-facing only seats and rear-facing convertible seats	All infants and toddlers should ride in a **Rear-Facing Car Seat** until they are 2 years of age or until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.
Toddlers/Preschoolers	Convertible seats and forward-facing seats with harness	Any child 2 years or older who has outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car seat should use a **Forward-Facing Car Seat** with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed their car seat's manufacturer. This also applies to any child younger than 2 years who has outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit of their seat.
School-aged children	Booster seats	All children whose weight or height is above the forward-facing limit for their car seat should use a **Belt-Positioning Booster Seat** until the vehicle seat belt fits properly, typically when they have reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and are between 8 and 12 years of age.
Older children	Seat belts	When children are old enough and large enough to use the vehicle seat belt alone they should always use **Lap and Shoulder Seat Belts** for optimal protection. All children younger than 13 years should be restrained in the rear seats of vehicles for optimal protection.

For additional information see:
www.healthychildren.org
(Safety & Prevention > On the Go > Car Seats: Information for Families for 2013)