

The **CARELINK** project's sponsoring partners are proud to provide the community with this Resource Guide as an important component of **CareLink Kids: Toddler to Teens...A Symposium on Child Safety**. This "link" covers a variety of topics and issues focused on increasing education and awareness for parents, grandparents and guardians on child health, safety and security.

The **CARELINK** project is a partnership between the Town Government, the Orangetown Police Department, the Town's Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Rockland Paramedic Services, Inc. **CareLink Kids** is also proudly sponsored and supported by Joyce Realty and Nyack Hospital.

All of this information and links to participating partners and resources can be found on-line. Just log onto [www.orangetown.com](http://www.orangetown.com) or [www.nyackhospital.org](http://www.nyackhospital.org) and click on the **CareLink Kids** link.



## Water Safety

No body of water should be taken for granted, regardless how large or small. Parents should maintain constant supervision. Watch children around any water environment (pool, stream, lake, tub, toilet, bucket of water), no matter what skills your child has acquired and no matter how shallow the water. Don't rely on substitutes. The use of flotation devices and inflatable toys cannot replace parental supervision. Such devices could suddenly shift position, lose air, or slip out from underneath, leaving the child in a dangerous situation. Enroll children in a water safety course or Learn to Swim program. Your decision to provide your child with an early aquatic experience is a gift that will have infinite rewards. Parents should also take a CPR course (See CPR and First Aid Classes section for local classes.) Knowing these skills can be important around the water and you will expand your capabilities in providing care for your child.

For more information on Water Safety tips log on to the American Red Cross' website [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and click on Services.

**Lifeguards are available for private pool parties. Please contact the following organizations:**

**The Orangetown Parks and Recreation Department: (845) 359-6503**  
**The Naurashaun Swim Club: (845) 735-4829. Ask for the manager on duty.**  
**Hickory Hill Swim Club: (845) 359-1171 Ask for Meryl Toan**



## 911 System

- 911 should only be called for emergencies such as fire, medical and police related emergencies.
- Any 911 call from any home, business or pay phone within the Town of Orangetown, rings at the Orangetown Police Department.
- The address you are calling from will come up on a screen at the police department. If you are unable to speak, do not hang up the phone. Assistance will be sent to your location.
- 911 calls made from cell phones will ring to a State Police dispatcher that might not be familiar with your location. It is important you know the location that you are calling from in order to get prompt police service.
- For non-emergency calls contact the Orangetown Police Department at **(845) 359-3700**.



## Fire Safety

Your local fire department offers TOT Finders to the public. These are stickers that you attach to the child's bedroom window. This alerts your local fire department that should your house be on fire, there could be children in these rooms who would need help.

**To report any fire emergencies call 911.**

**Contact your local fire department for more information**  
**Blauvelt .....(845) 398-3929**  
**Nyack .....(845) 358-5454**  
**Orangeburg .....(845) 359-5921**  
**Pearl River .....(845) 735-2800**  
**Sparkill/Palisades .....(845) 359-1324**  
**Tappan .....(845) 359-3907**  
**Piermont .....(845) 359-1208**

### Poison Control:

Hudson Valley Poison Education Center at Phelps Memorial Hospital in Tarrytown offers free educational classes about poison control. For more information call **(914) 366-3675**. Or visit [www.poisoneducation.org](http://www.poisoneducation.org)

**For poison control emergencies call 1-800-222-1222.**



## Child Identification Program

When a child is missing, time is a critical ingredient for a prompt and thorough investigation. When parents realize a child is missing, they are often too upset to report the important facts about their child. South Orangetown Ambulance and the Orangetown Police Department offers a child ID kit that the parents fill out and keep at their homes. The kit contains: parent information and child information periodically throughout the years, including an area for photographs and fingerprints of the child. These kits are free and made available to you at the Orangetown Town Clerk's Office. For information and availability call **(845) 359-5100** or **(845) 359-3030**.



## Playground Safety

As playground equipment has changed throughout the years, so have the rules to keep children safe. It is estimated that approximately 200,000 children each year end up in Emergency Rooms across the country due to playground related injuries. Parents can begin to provide a safe and enjoyable time for their children by doing such things as supervising the playground and keeping their children on age appropriate equipment built on a proper surface. This is as true for public playgrounds as it is for backyard play equipment, which has gotten much more complex over the past decade. Equipment made from safe materials and kept in good working condition goes a long way to keeping children safe.

For further details and additional information, contact the Orangetown Recreation and Parks Department at **(845) 359-6503** or [www.orangetown.com/parks](http://www.orangetown.com/parks) or the National Program for Playground Safety at [www.uni.edu/playground](http://www.uni.edu/playground).



## Substance Abuse

Statistical information is gathered via the PRIDE Survey starting in 5th, 8th and 10th grades. Research indicates that easy access to drugs and alcohol increases the probability of use and availability normally increases at higher grade levels. The following substances were consumed by Rockland County youth at rates above national norm: Alcohol and Marijuana. Parent involvement is the key. As a parent you should often talk with your child maintaining an open dialogue about alcohol and drugs while listening and learning what your child thinks and feels. For more information on Drug Prevention contact National Institute on Drug Abuse at [www.nida.nih.gov](http://www.nida.nih.gov) or Parents. The Anti-Drug at [www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com).



## Car Seat Safety and Seat Belts

- All persons in a motor vehicle must use seat belts, regardless of age. Children 12 years and under must be in the back seat.
- The driver is responsible for occupants under 16 years of age to see that they are using either seatbelts or a child safety system.

### Car & Booster Seats:

- All children under 4 years of age or under 40 lbs. are required to be in an approved child safety seat that is properly installed in the vehicle.
- Children under one year old **and** under 20 lbs must be in a child safety seat that is rear facing.
- Children over one year old to 4 years old **and** 20- 40 lbs must be in a forward facing safety seat.
- It is recommended that children 4-8 years old, who weigh 40 to 80 pounds, and who are less than four feet nine inches in height, should be using a booster seat.

More than 95 percent of child seats installed by car owners are installed incorrectly. Contact a certified technician for proper installation.

To schedule an appointment for a child seat installation or to answer any questions call the Orangetown Police Department at **(845) 359-7395 ext. 110**.

**CAR CRASHES ARE THE #1 KILLER OF TEENAGERS IN AMERICA.**

**Remind Teens to Buckle Up, Limit Distractions and to Drive Safely.**



## WHALE Program

The WHALE Program – or We Have A Little Emergency – is an identification and information package for child car safety seats. The program was created by Connie Day, a caregiver from Richmond, VA who wondered what would happen to the children in her care in the event of an automobile accident. The program consists of four self-adhesive stickers and one information label. This label is attached to the rear of the car seat and includes information about the child who uses the seat. Two WHALE Car Seat Stickers are attached to the sides of the safety seat, and two WHALE Vehicle stickers are attached to the rear side windows of the vehicle.

For more information or to obtain a WHALE Kit please call the County of Rockland's Office of Fire and Emergency Services at **(845) 364-8800**.



## Internet Safety

While children need a certain amount of privacy, they also need parental involvement and supervision in their daily lives. These same parenting skills apply when children go online. There are several risks that a child can get involved with online and it is important that parents be aware of them:

- Exposure to inappropriate material – sexual, hateful and violent in nature
- Physical molestation – encounters with pedophiles
- Harassment – harassing, demeaning or belligerent e-mail contacts
- Legal and financial – using parent’s credit cards or violating someone’s rights

To report an internet incident involving your child or to get more information on internet safety contact the Orangetown Police Department at **(845) 359-3700**.

\*Please be aware that you may have parental controls available through your internet provider.



## Helmet Safety

Rockland County Law 217-2 states that no person shall operate a bicycle or ride on a bicycle without wearing a helmet meeting the standards of the American National Standards Institute. “Wearing a helmet,” means having a helmet of good fit, fastened securely upon the head with the helmet straps. For a passenger greater than one year and less than five years of age, such passenger is also placed in a separate seat attached to the bicycle and such seat shall have adequate provision for retaining the passenger in place and for protecting the passenger from the moving parts of the bicycle. Helmets should also be worn while using skateboards, scooters and in-line skates.

For more information and tips on buying a helmet go to the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute website at [www.bhsi.org](http://www.bhsi.org).

Through National Safe Kids, Good Samaritan Hospital offers low cost or no cost bike helmets to those who need one. For more information call Wendy Schindler at **(845) 368-5405**.



## CPR and First Aid Classes

Recent studies have shown that a cardiac arrest victim’s best chance for survival is early CPR. Even the quickest EMS response may not be enough. Parents, adults, and older children should all be trained in CPR - especially in CPR skills geared to dealing with younger victims. Also included in all pediatric CPR classes is information on how to child-proof your home.

- Nyack Community Ambulance Corps offers all levels of CPR training. Adult CPR classes, Pediatric CPR classes and Basic Life Support classes, both original and recertifications, are conducted at the Ambulance Corps. For further information and to register for all classes please call **(845) 358-4824** and leave a message for Tracey Johnson.
- The South Orangetown Ambulance Corps, an American Safety and Health Institute Training Center, offers Adult and Pediatric CPR Courses for the general public, as well as Basic Life Support Courses for Professionals. Public Access Defibrillation, Babysitter Training, Basic First Aid and Wilderness First Aid Classes are also available. For more information on training, community outreach programs and ambulance corps tours, please call **(845) 359-3030** and ask for the Training Division.
- Pearl River Ambulance Corps offers American Heart Association CPR and First Aid classes. For more information please call Brian Haughney at **(631) 831-9659**.
- The Piermont Fire Department offers CPR Classes. For more information call EMT Jane Nicholl at **(914) 850-9064**.
- Rockland Paramedic Services is an American Heart Association Training Center offering courses in both Basic and Advanced Life Support. Courses are offered in all levels of Basic Life Support (BLS) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training from the very basic course of CPR for Family and Friends, to more advanced courses of HeartSaver Adult, Child and Infant, BLS for the Healthcare Provider and HeartSaver First Aid. Courses include: child and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation and relief of a foreign body (choking) as well as safety tips to protect children and infants from accidents. For more information please contact Lt. Donna Marques at **(845) 627-8613 ext. 187**. The Training Center is located at 140 Blaisdell Road, Orangeburg.
- Nyack Hospital offers Infant and Child CPR classes on an ongoing basis through its Maternity Center. For more information on the next scheduled class call **(845) 348-2639** or log onto their website [www.nyackhospital.org](http://www.nyackhospital.org) and click on Classes.

## Important Phone Numbers

Nyack / Orangeburg Reach Out to Youth Counseling Center  
**(845) 358-2884 or (845) 359-0984**  
 Suicide Hotline for Rockland County  
**(845) 354-6500**  
 Orangetown Police Underage Drinking and Substance Abuse Hotline  
**(888) 838-3273**  
 Rape and Sexual Violence Hotline  
**(800) 656-4673**  
 Rockland Family Shelter Hotline  
**(845) 634-3344**  
 For non-emergencies call **(845) 634-3391** or visit [www.rocklandfamilyshelter.org](http://www.rocklandfamilyshelter.org)  
 SO CASA  
 South Orangetown Community Awareness of Substance Abuse  
**(845) 680-1000 ext. 7270 or 1675**



**A Community Project to Save Lives**



**Don't Delay...In An Emergency Call 911**

Created and Coordinated for the Town of Orangetown by



**South Orangetown Ambulance Corps TRAINING DIVISION**

in partnership with

Nyack Community Ambulance Corps, Pearl River Ambulance Corps, Piermont FD Ambulance, Rockland Paramedic Services, Inc., Orangetown Police Department and Town Government.



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 Toddlers to Teens...  
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