



Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital
 4301 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite M-2
 Washington, D.C. 20008
 PHONE 202-237-1670 800-523-7898
 FAX 202-274-2161
 www.gscnc.org

B242

TROOP TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Form Retained by Troop Leader

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. has set standards for meeting the basic levels of health, safety and security that must be provided to girls. **Safety-Wise** Standard 25, on Private Transportation, states that "Private passenger cars, station wagons and vans may be used during Girl Scout activities. They must be properly registered, insured, and operated by adults (age 18 in Maryland, D.C. and Virginia) with a valid license for the type and size of vehicle used. Any other form of private transportation may be used only after council approval has been obtained." The following standards must also be met:

- The number of passengers does not exceed the intended passenger limits of the vehicle.
- Each person has her or his own seat and her or his own seatbelt.
- There is adequate space for luggage and equipment, which is stowed securely.
- All vehicles should be equipped with a first aid kit.

In addition:

Within the District of Columbia:

In accordance with the Child Restraint Amendment Act of 2002 enacted by the District of Columbia, children under 8 years of age shall be properly seated in an installed infant, convertible (toddler) or booster child safety seat, according to the manufacturer's instructions. A booster seat shall only be used with both a lap and shoulder belt. Failure to comply with this act may result in a fine. This act applies to residents of the District of Columbia, as well as those driving through D.C. on their way to events.

Within Maryland:

Maryland's new child safety seat law goes into effect on June 30, 2008. The new law requires that all children younger than eight years of age be secured in a federally approved child safety seat* according to the safety seat and vehicle manufacturers' instructions, unless the child is 4 feet, 9 inches or taller, or weighs more than 65 pounds. The child restraint must be right for the child's size, age, and weight.

*Child safety seats include: infant seats, convertible seats, forward-facing seats, booster seats, or other safety devices federally approved for use by children in motor vehicles.

Within Virginia:

Any child up to age eight must be properly secured in a child restraint device approved by United States DOT when riding in a vehicle made after January 1, 1968. Rear-facing child restraints must be placed in the back seat. If the vehicle does not have a backseat, the child restraint may be placed in the front seat if the vehicle does not have a front passenger airbag or if the airbag has been turned off. Any child eight years of age but less than sixteen years of age must be properly secured in a seatbelt system when riding in a vehicle made after January 1, 1968. The above code does not apply to taxicabs, school buses, executive sedans, or limousines. 46.2-1100 Code of Virginia. A child at least four years of age but less than eight years of age may use the vehicle seat belt system if a physician licensed to practice medicine determines the child's weight, physical fitness or medical condition prevents the use of a child restraint device. The driver must carry a written statement from the physician identifying the child and stating why the child is exempt.

Parent/Guardian of Child

Vehicle Information

Make/model _____ Year _____

Color _____ License No. _____ State _____

Manufacturer rated for _____ persons (including driver). Rating should be for number of seat belts.

I certify that I am an adult holding a valid driver's license, and that the vehicle described above is adequately insured for the state in which it is registered.

Name (please print) *Signature* _____

Name (please print) *Signature* _____

Any adult who may drive this vehicle for a troop event should certify.

For more information, see **Volunteer Essentials**