



The CHAT

August 2026



Chautauqua
Child Care Council

Child Care Keeps Chautauqua County Working

AUGUST is...



Summer Sun Safety Month, National Breastfeeding Month, National Wellness Month, & Family Fun Month

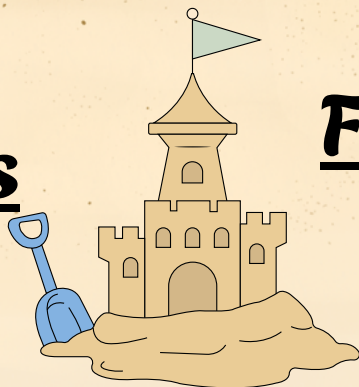
Click on the links below to discover more about all the engaging events happening during the month of August!



Sun Safety



Wellness



Family Fun

Breastfeeding



Office of Children and Family Services

Regulations Review

Outdoor Play

Recognizing the importance of physical activity for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers promotes children's health in many areas of development. Time spent outdoors is one significant way to engage children in fun and meaningful practices that strengthen not only physical health, but social-emotional skills, cognitive learning, and gross motor skills.

GFDC 416.7(h) FDC 417.7(h)

h) Programs must offer daily supervised outdoor play, except during inclement or extreme weather or unless otherwise prohibited by a health care provider. Parents may request and programs may permit children to remain indoors during outdoor play time so long as such children will be supervised by an approved caregiver.



DCC 418-1.7(k)

(k) Daily supervised outdoor play is required for all children in care, except during inclement or extreme weather or unless otherwise ordered by a health care provider. Parents may request and programs may permit children to remain indoors during outdoor play time so long as such children will be supervised in accordance with section 418-1.8 of this Subpart.



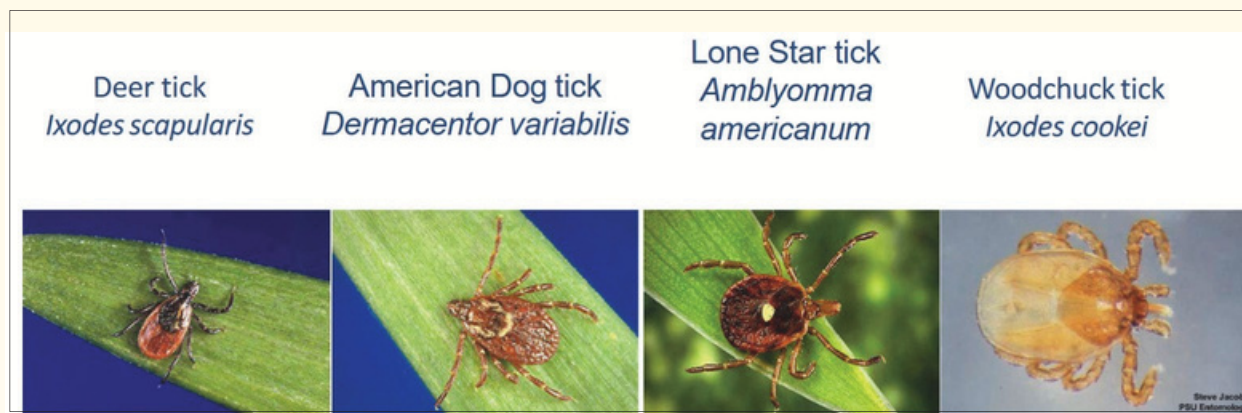


Important OCFS Update:

Outdoor Safety: Ticks



Ticks are small arachnids with eight legs that feed on the blood of mammals and birds. They can transmit diseases, including Lyme disease. Ticks are not limited to wooded areas; they can also be found in lawns and near sidewalks. Currently, there are four types of ticks found in New York State.



How to help prevent ticks on children:

- To reduce the risk of ticks, keep tall grass, overgrown vegetation, and leaf piles to a minimum.
- Before taking children outside, drag a light-colored sheet or towel across your lawn to check for ticks effectively.
- Dress children in light-colored long sleeves and pants to make ticks easier to spot.
- After spending time outdoors, check both bodies and clothing for ticks.
- With written permission, you can apply EPA-registered insect repellent to exposed skin and clothing.

What to do if you find a tick on a child?

- ***Do not attempt to remove the tick*** if it is attached to the child's skin. Instead, contact the parent and advise them to either remove the tick themselves or take the child to a healthcare provider for removal.
- Be sure to document how the tick was removed and the date of removal.
- Monitor the area of the bite for signs and symptoms of infection, which may appear typically between 3 to 30 days after the tick bite, and keep the parent informed.

Additional Resources:

New York State Department of Health: www.health.ny.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov



NEW Training Opportunity!

Scan & Count and Listen: Strategies for Providing Active Supervision

This training is the third session of the Active Supervision series.

Available in English and Spanish. Choose the date and time that work for you!

No-cost training opportunity. Participants receive 1.25 training hours upon successful completion of the training.

NYS Office of Children and Family Services | Early Childhood Education and Training Program (ECETP)

**Register
Here**



Register today for this important
NEW virtual training focusing on
how scanning, counting and
listening impact supervision in
child care.

Thursday, Aug. 6, 1–2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6–7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 8–9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1–2:30 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 29, 9–10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 3, 1–2:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 10, 6–7:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 14, 1–2:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 25, 9–10:30 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 28, 6–7:30 p.m.

Send questions to: ecetp@albany.edu



**Office of Children
and Family Services**

Professional Development

Saturday PD Training Session

Saturday, September 19, 2026

8:45 am - 1:00 pm

COI Connections North
10825 Bennett Rd. Dunkirk
Conference Room

REGISTER HERE

OR Contact Rebecca Potter at
rpotter@chautopp.org



Join us for a great day of training and professional development opportunities, including several workshops and a keynote speaker.

October 17, 2026 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Dunkirk High School

For more information
contact Beth Faulkner
bfaulkner@chautopp.org

**Chautauqua County
Chapter of NYAEC
Annual FALL Conference.**

Save the Date



CACFP & Nutrition

National Breastfeeding Awareness Month is an annual campaign dedicated to empowering nursing families, promoting the normalization of human milk feeding, and raising awareness of the many nresources available to support parents and infants.

The Chautauqua Child Care Council is proud to support breastfeeding families through its Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). As part of this commitment, the Council encourages registered and licensed child care providers to earn the Breastfeeding Friendly (BFF) designation for their programs. Awarded by the New York State Department of Health, the BFF designation recognizes child care providers who have completed specialized training and successfully assessed their programs to ensure they offer a welcoming and supportive environment for breastfeeding families.

If you are a registered or licensed child care provider and would like more information about obtaining a BFF Designation, please contact Chris Wigren, Lindsey Burke, or Meg Rodgers at 716-661-9430

*August is National Breastfeeding Month
Honoring those child care providers who have earned a Breastfeeding Friendly (BFF) designation from the New York State Department of Health*

Christina Adanti

Jane Brunner - Jayne's Jungle

Brook Cerrie - Pride and Joy Child Care

Dawn Comstock - A New Dawn's Daycare

Amanda Halovich

Sally Matey

Angella Newhard - Angie's Blessed Child Care

Kimberly Morello



REFRESHING Recipes



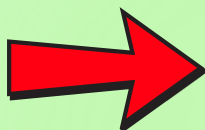
Need some new recipes for all those zucchini's growing in your garden or the ones your friends and neighbors are giving you? You can find several zucchini recipes including air fryer zucchini, zucchini pizza boats, zucchini lasagna, zucchini noodles and more at:

Zucchini squash offer many health benefits such as antioxidants that help protect vision and reduce inflammation; vitamins that help strengthen bones, and soluble and insoluble fiber that helps maintain healthy digestion. In addition, this versatile little vegetable helps with hydration that is especially important during hot summer days.

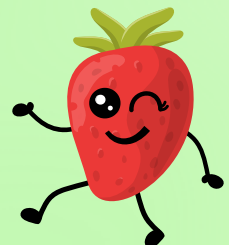


For more fun food ideas

click here



Easy Healthy Recipes



Frozen Grapes



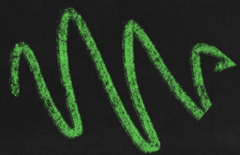
Rinse and clean green and/or red grapes - do not dry the grapes.

Let the children help separate the individual grapes from the stems.

Put the grapes in a plastic freezer bag. Give them 8 hours in the freezer or freeze them overnight.

For smaller children, the grapes can be cut in quarters before freezing to prevent choking.

Homemade "freezer pops" can be made with pureed fruit. Watermelon, berries, or peaches are good fruits to use. 100% orange and grape juice work well also. If you don't have a mold, use ice cube trays or freeze in a bowl and serve as sorbet.



Business



Our Business Specialist can help you create a business plan which includes budgeting, time and space allocation, insurance needs, retirement plans, child care management systems & much more!



For more information on how you can access these valuable programs, reach out today!

Meg Rodgers

716-661-9430 ext. 2286

mrodgers@chautopp.org



ONLINE

LIBRARY



The Chautauqua Child Care Council is pleased to announce the addition of the Resource Library to the COI website!

Click this link
Resource Library

This interactive online library includes informational resources and tools to help providers build sustainable childcare programs that utilize best practices to help support and nurture the health and safety of young children.

Resources



The Chautauqua Child Care Council

works to foster collaborative relationships in order to build a strong responsive child care support system meeting the needs of all of Chautauqua County's families, child care providers, businesses and communities.

Share The Chat with your employees and your families!

The Chautauqua Child Care Council is a division of

