



Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education

Planning. Guidance. Protection.

What is Choose Safe Places?

Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education (CSPECE) is a voluntary program from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). The program focuses on making sure that early care and education (ECE) facilities are located in safe places where children are not exposed to hazardous chemicals while in their care.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is an APPLETREE (ATSDR's Partnership to Promote Local Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposure) state partner and operates the New Hampshire Choose Safe Places Program.

Why is it important?

In the United States, about 8.3 million children are in licensed ECE programs for an average of 36 hours per week. Choose Safe Places works to protect children at these facilities from naturally occurring contaminants like arsenic, uranium and radon, as well as manufactured contaminants such as lead, pesticides and other chemicals that can be found in air, water, soil and dust.



How can we work together?

Our goal is to empower communities, families and professionals to better understand and consider environmental health when caring for children. By bringing together people in early care and education, child care community planning, public health and environmental protection, we can:

- Listen to your concerns about environmental exposures.
- Provide training on safe sighting and best practices to avoid chemical hazards.
- Interpret environmental testing results and advise on treatment for contaminants.

We welcome your participation!

For more information and resources, please visit the NHDES APPLETREE website by scanning the QR code.

If you are interested in serving on our Advisory Team, please contact:
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