



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY**

John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner

***Division of Fire Safety***

**Office of the State Fire Marshal**

J. William Degnan, State Fire Marshal

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RECEIVED

MAR 10 2016

AMHERST, NH

March 7, 2016

Dear Administrator,

The NH Bureau of Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety regulates amusement rides and devices through the New Hampshire Division of Fire Safety, or Fire Marshal's Office. 'Bounce House' inflatable - type devices meet the definition of an amusement ride, and are regulated if they are 'open to the public'. This means that if an inflatable device is used at a private residence, then it is not regulated, but if it is used for any other use, such as a church gathering, old home day, or school function, for example, then it is regulated, and needs to be registered. This poses a challenge for our two inspectors statewide, as we find it impossible to know where and when these devices are used, because of the relative simplicity of setting them up and operating them.

We are therefore reaching out to the town administrators in hopes that we can 'get the word out' that these devices come with particular risks, and are regulated in an effort to minimize those risks. Please pass this message on to the police and fire departments, so that they can be on the lookout for these devices.

Each registered device will have a New Hampshire Decal with the current year and a number. The operator should also have on hand a copy of the registration documents and an insurance certificate. If an operator does not have this, then operation of the device is in violation of RSA 321-A.

Please keep our contact information available, and feel free to contact us if you have a question regarding amusement devices.