

# Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland

## SAFETY NEWS



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Fall 2006

### Coordinator's Corner

It's back to school time and Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland (SKLSM) is gearing up for a busy Fall. Our child passenger safety technicians will visit local daycares to talk with children about buckling up and educate caregivers about car seat safety. In October, we'll be holding our annual "Trick-or-Treat: Check Your Seat," a free child safety seat check where parents will have car seats checked for proper installation and children will receive a free Halloween goody bag!

Fall is a great time to review home fire safety plans with your family. Part of planning for home fire safety is making sure that your home has working smoke alarms. For families on a fixed income who do not have working smoke alarms, contact your local fire department for assistance. See page 4 for smoke alarm tips.

Help keep your child safe to and from school. Take the time now to review school bus and car safety tips with your children as well as stranger danger tips for walking to and from school. If we can be of any assistance in providing educational programs or safety literature for your family or organization, contact us. Have a safe and colorful fall season!

*Tammy L. Griffin, Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland Coordinator*

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### Bus Safety for Back to School

*by Karen Waggoner, Wicomico County Sheriff's Office*

#### Safety Tips For Bus Riders:

1. Wear bright clothes so the bus driver can easily see you.
2. Get to the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is due.
3. Line up quietly in single file and away from the road.
4. Don't push, yell, or throw things while at the bus stop or on the bus.
5. Stay out of the Danger Zone: 10 feet around the bus on all sides.
6. Use handrails to get on the and off the bus.
7. Pay attention to the bus driver.
8. Keep the aisles clear.
9. Never stick your hands or feet out of the window.
10. Talk quietly and stay seated on the bus.

#### Safety Tips For Drivers:

1. Watch for children walking to the bus stop.
2. Do not pass a school bus with its RED LIGHTS flashing! (Up to \$500 fine.)
3. Maintain a safe distance between your car and the school bus.  
A bus stops often.
4. Obey reduced speed limits in School Zones.



**Help your child ride  
back to school safely!**

**For more information contact Safe Kids Lower Shore or Karen Waggoner at (410) 548-4892 ext.222.**

# September is Baby Safety Month

Each year more than four million Americans welcome a new baby into their home. If your family is one of them, then you know that keeping your baby safe is a top priority. Here are a few simple steps to help protect your new little bundle of joy.

- Place babies on their back to sleep at naptime and nighttime;
- Use a federally approved safety crib with slats no further apart than 2 and 3/8 inches;
- Remove all soft, fluffy and/or loose bedding and other items from your baby's sleep area;
- Room sharing is safer than bed sharing;
- Do not dress your baby too warmly for sleep;



- Don't smoke while you are pregnant and don't allow anyone to smoke around your baby after he or she is born;
- Give your baby lots of supervised "tummy time" when they are awake to strengthen their upper body muscles;
- Educate grandparents and other caregivers about SIDS and ways to reduce the risk of infant death.

Don't miss some of the exciting parenting programs in the area! Peninsula Regional Medical Center offers parenting and grand-parenting classes as well as Infant/Child Safety and CPR. The Wicomico County Health Department's Healthy Families program offers the "Happiest Baby on the Block" for new moms and baby. To register or get more information call P.R.M.C. at (410) 543-7126 and Healthy Families at (410) 543-6942. If you are not in the Wicomico area, contact your local hospital or health department to find classes near you! [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

## Fire Prevention Week 2006

by Michael Lowe, Delaware State Fire School

National Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14, 2006. This year's theme is "Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch What You Heat." Cooking equipment is involved in more than 100,000 reported home fires each year. Most of these fires start because people simply do not pay attention. Following are some kitchen fire safety tips.



### PAY ATTENTION WHEN YOU COOK:

- Stay with food when frying, grilling, broiling or boiling.
- If you must leave the room, turn off the stove.
- If baking or simmering, use a timer to remind you.
- When finished cooking turn off all burners immediately.

### MICROWAVES:

- Never use an extension cord.
- Only use microwave safe containers.
- Allow food to cool for one minute or more before removing it with an oven mitt.
- Never use aluminum foil in the microwave.

### FIRE EXTINGUISHER:

- Keep a fire extinguisher and know how to use it.

### SMALL KITCHEN FIRES:

- Always keep an oven mitt and a lid nearby.
- If a grease fire starts, cover the pan with a lid wearing your oven mitt.
- Never pour water on a grease fire.
- If the fire does not go out, get out of the home and stay out. Call 911.
- If the oven is on fire, keep the door closed.

### NEAT AND CLEAN:

- Keep potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic and any other combustibles away from the stovetop.
- Clean up any grease spills from stovetops and burners

## Halloween Safety Tips

by Karen Waggoner, Wicomico County Sheriff's Office

Back to school means Halloween "Trick or Treating" isn't far away! Follow these simple steps to make sure your night of fun is a safe one! Many local hospitals and police departments will x-ray your candy for free. As Halloween approaches, watch local newscasts for locations and times!



- ▶ Carry a flashlight.
- ▶ Wear clothing or costumes with reflective markings or tape.
- ▶ Walk, don't run.
- ▶ Stay on sidewalks.
- ▶ If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.
- ▶ Obey traffic signals.
- ▶ Stay in familiar neighborhoods.
- ▶ Don't cut across yards or driveways.
- ▶ Stay away from and don't pet any animal you don't know.

- ▶ Wear a watch you can see in the dark.
- ▶ Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground.
- ▶ Shoes should fit well - even if they don't go with your costume!
- ▶ Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house.
- ▶ Only carry flexible knives, swords or other costume props.
- ▶ Only approach houses that are lit.
- ▶ Have a parent check your candy before you eat it.

# Fall 2006 Consumer Product Safety Alerts



**Product: Folding Picnic Table**

**Distributor:** Atico International USA of Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

**Hazard:** The legs on the picnic table can buckle or break during use, causing the table to collapse unexpectedly. 26 reports have been received, including 18 reports of injuries including a broken foot and muscle strains.

**Sold:** Family Dollar, Rite Aid, Happy Harry's, Eckerd stores nationwide from January 2001 to December 2005 for \$20 - \$40.

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the picnic tables and contact Atico at (877) 546-4835 or [www.aticousa.com](http://www.aticousa.com) for product verification and return instructions.

**Product: ALEX Super Cooking Sets**

**Distributor:** Panline USA Inc, doing business as ALEX, of Northvale, N.J.

**Hazard:** Glass pot lids can break, posing a laceration hazard. ALEX has received a report of a 2 year old girl who cut her foot from the broken glass from one of the lids. The cut required stitches.

**Sold:** Discount and specialty toy stores nationwide from Sept. 2005 – April 2006 for about \$20.

**Remedy:** Consumers should take the glass lids away from children immediately and contact ALEX to receive a free replacement lid set. (800) 666-2539 or [recall@alextoys.com](mailto:recall@alextoys.com)



**Product: Hampton Bay Transitional Collection Fire Truck/Bulldozer Lamp**

**Distributor:** Emess Design Group LLC, of Ellwood City, PA.

**Hazard:** The glass window of the fire truck and bulldozer night light can become dislodged, fall and shatter into small pieces, posing a laceration hazard and serious risk of injury if ingested.

**Sold:** Exclusively at The Home Depot stores nationwide from Jan. 2006-June 2006 for about \$40.

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using recalled lamps and return to The Home Depot for a full refund or contact Emess Design Group at (800) 678-2579 or [www.emessdesign.com](http://www.emessdesign.com).



**Product: Quiksilver and Roxy Girl Lounge Pants**

**Distributor:** Quiksilver, Inc, of Huntington Beach, CA.

**Hazard:** Lounge pants fail to meet the children's sleepwear flammability standards, posing a risk of burn injury to children due to possible ignition of the garment. Garments were not marketed as sleepwear, but children's loungewear must meet the children's sleepwear flammability standards.

**Sold:** Surf and skate shops, specialty and department stores from Sept. 2003 – Jan. 2006 for \$20-\$50.

**Remedy:** Parents should stop their children from wearing the recalled lounge pants and return them to the place of purchase for a refund or contact Quiksilver at (800) 576-4004 or [channels@quiksilver.com](mailto:channels@quiksilver.com).



**Product: Hide & Seek Hooded Sweatshirt**

**Distributor:** Quiksilver, Inc. of Huntington Beach, CA

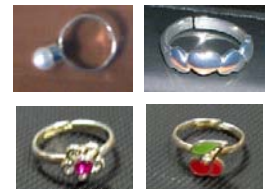
**Hazard:** A drawstring is threaded through the hood, posing a strangulation hazard. In February 1996, CPSC issued guidelines to help prevent children from strangling or getting entangled on the neck and waist by drawstrings in upper garments, such as jackets.

**Sold:** Surf/skate shops, specialty and department stores from Nov. 2005 – Jan. 2006 for about \$40.

**Remedy:** Consumers should remove drawstring from the sweatshirt to eliminate the hazard. Consumers may return to the place of purchase or mail the sweatshirt to: Quiksilver, Inc., Attention: Consumer Replacements/Recalled Merchandise, 5600 Argosy Circle, Suite 300, Huntington Beach, CA. Returns must include the consumer's name, address and telephone number.

**Health Alert: Lead Contamination Found in Children's Jewelry**

The Baltimore City Health Department has investigated lead contamination in children's jewelry. The investigation has involved testing of 17 items purchased at six locations in Baltimore City. Four of the 17 items tested contained elements with more than 600 parts per million of lead, the Federal standard for lead in paint. Mouthing or swallowing these items could expose children to dangerous amounts of lead. For more testing results, visit: <http://baltimorecity.gov/government/health/jewelry.html>



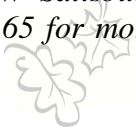
**Jewelry pictured at right was purchased at the following locations:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Claire's (pearl) 68,071 parts per million | Wal-Mart (heart) 3,540 parts per million  |
| Claire's (flower) 874 parts per million   | Claire's (cherries) 682 parts per million |

**Jewelry shown above contains more than 600 parts per million of lead.**

## Did You Know?

The Salisbury Police Department provides firearms safety kits through Project Child Safe. Safety kits include a safety brochure that covers a variety of options for firearms storage and a free cable-style gunlock. To obtain a free safety kit and gun lock, visit the Salisbury Police Department at 699 W Salisbury Parkway or call 410-548-3165 for more information.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 15; 9:00 a.m.**  
Safe Kids Lower Shore Meeting  
Cooperative Ext. Office, Salisbury  
(410) 334-3480

**September 18; 8:30 a.m. – 12:00**  
Child Safety Seat Check  
Berlin Health Center WIC Office  
(410) 632-0056

**September 19; 10 am– 2 pm**  
Maryland State Safe Kids Meeting

**October 2-8, 2006**  
Drive Safely to Work Week

**October 5; 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.**  
Child Safety Seat Check  
Pocomoke WIC Office  
(410) 632-0056

**October 11; 6- 9 p.m.**  
PRMC Infant/Child CPR Class  
Peninsula Cardiology  
(410) 543-7126

**October 16th-19th**  
Child Passenger Safety Technician  
Training Course  
1 (877) 366-8154

**October 19; 1:00 -4:00 p.m.**  
“Trick or Treat: Check Your Seat”  
Wal-Mart North, Salisbury  
(410) 334-3480

**October 31, 2006**  
“Trick or Treat: Check Your Seat”  
Dorchester County Health Dept.  
(410) 901-8131

## Smoke Alarms Save Lives

### Count your smoke alarms:

Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, including one in each bedroom.

### Know the sound:

Make sure everyone recognizes the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to react. Assistive devices are available for the hearing impaired.

### Check your smoke alarms:

Press the test button monthly to make certain they are still working.

### Change your batteries:

Change alarm batteries twice a year.

### Change your alarm:

Replace smoke alarms every ten years.

### Vacuum your smoke alarms:

Clean smoke alarms of dust and cobwebs monthly to keep them sensitive.

[www.firesafety.com](http://www.firesafety.com)



**Preventing unintentional injuries.**

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**Serving Dorchester, Somerset,  
Wicomico & Worcester Counties**

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

SKLSM is looking for community support. If your organization is interested in joining, please contact us for more information.

