

Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland

SAFETY NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring 2006

Welcome, Spring!

Tammy Griffin

Spring is here and safety is in the air! This time of year is so exciting as we prepare for our annual Safe Kids Day event. This year, Safe Kids Day will be held at the Salisbury YMCA on May 13th from 12:30-4:30pm with the theme "Safe Pools for Safe Kids". Educational information will focus on ways parents and caregivers can prevent children from being injured in pools and hot tubs, including active supervision, entrapment prevention, and safer pool environments. Other free interactive safety demonstrations will take place including open swim, bike rodeos, fire and poison prevention games, sun safety and much more! There will also be a visit from some of our favorite furry friends! Don't miss this opportunity to win prizes, have fun with the family and celebrate an early Mother's Day!

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Child Passenger Safety Week was held February 12-18th.

This year we collaborated with banks throughout the shore and distributed "Love Me, Buckle Me" signs for drive-thru windows. We also provided booster seat education to more than 250 children in local child care centers. Karen Waggoner from the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office volunteered an hour of her time to the Wicomico County Free Library for "Children's Hour" where they heard the story of "Boost-A-Moose" and learned the importance of buckling up on every ride! Thanks to a grant provided by National Safe Kids and the efforts of Somerset County Sheriff's Office, local Health Departments, and Maryland Kids in Safety Seats we finished the week with a Free Child Safety Seat check-up event at Barrett Chevrolet in Berlin, Maryland. A very special thank-you goes out to Mr. Stephen Barrett for his participation and generous donation to the Coalition as well as to all of our wonderful seat technicians who donated their time and energy!

Best of luck to all of you in your efforts to keep children safe! Do not hesitate to contact Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland if we can be of any assistance or provide additional resource information to you or your organization. Have a safe, happy and healthy Spring!



*Karen Waggoner
Wicomico Sheriff's Office*

Delmar Student Recognized for Saving Friend's Life

Submitted by Mike Lowe

Delmar Middle School eighth grader Samantha Ward was honored February 27, 2006 for her efforts in saving the life of a friend. Samantha was in the area as a friend threw gasoline on an open fire. The vapors ignited and the friend was engulfed in flames. Samantha intervened and instructed the young man to "**Stop, Drop, Cover his Face, and Roll.**" This is what she had been taught through the "Risk Watch" curriculum at Delmar Middle School.

For Samantha's efforts she received the "Safe T. Bear" Hero Award from the Delaware Children's Fire Safety Foundation and plaque from the National Fire Protection Association. Samantha's mother, Tracy Ward, was presented with a gift from the Delaware State Fire School. Mr. Bowser, principal of Delmar Middle School, accepted a gift from "Risk Watch Delaware" on behalf of the school.

Those in attendance for the presentation included Kim Robinson, State Risk Watch Coordinator, Bill Betts of the Delaware State Fire Commission, Mike Kernan, Director of the Delaware State Fire School, Mike Lowe, Training Administrator from the Delaware State Fire School and Kathy Myers, Coordinator of Safe Kids Delaware.



Samantha Ward receives the Safe T. Bear Hero Award from Fire Commissioner Bill Betts as Fire School Director Mike Kernan looks on.

Watch Coordinator, Bill Betts of the Delaware State Fire Commission, Mike Kernan, Director of the Delaware State Fire School, Mike Lowe, Training Administrator from the Delaware State Fire School and Kathy Myers, Coordinator of Safe Kids Delaware.

Drowning remains the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 1-14 and the leading cause among children ages 1 to 4. Forty percent of drowning and near-drowning occurs in swimming pools. Many of these young children wander out of their own house, or relative or neighbor's house into a backyard that doesn't have a proper isolation fence or gate. Drowning usually occurs quickly and silently. Two minutes following submersion, a child will lose consciousness. Childhood drowning and near-drowning can happen in a matter of seconds and typically occurs when a child is left unattended or during a brief lapse in supervision.

A lesser known risk in pools and hot tubs is the risk of entrapment. Entrapment occurs when part of a child's body becomes attached to a drain because of the powerful suction of a pool or hot tub's filtration system. Death or serious injury can occur when the force of the suction overpowers the child's ability to disengage from the drain and rise to the surface of the water. Often the strength of an adult is still not enough to remove a child trapped by a pool or hot tub's drainage system. Entrapment deaths can also occur when a child's hair or swimsuit gets tangled in



the drain or on an underwater object such as a ladder.

In addition to environmental precautions, parents and caregivers must actively supervise children whenever water is present. Active supervision means that a parent or caregiver is giving undivided attention to the child and is close enough to help the child in case of emergency.

Source: www.safekids.org

General Pool Safety Tips:

- 👉 Parents should actively supervise children around water.
- 👉 Pool owners should ensure that their pool has four-sided fencing and a self closing, self-latching gate.
- 👉 Pool and hot tub owners should install a door alarm.

Entrapment Prevention Tips:

- 👉 Parents should warn children about the dangers of entanglement and entrapment.
- 👉 Pool and hot tub owners should install protective measures to prevent entrapment.

National Poison Prevention Week is March 19-25, 2006

In 2004, U.S. poison centers reported over 1.2 million poisonings in children less than 6 years old. While most poisonings resulted in little or no effects, there were 27 fatalities nationally.

To protect your children, label items in and around your home that could be harmful. Remind your children that if they see something they aren't sure is safe for them, they should follow Mr. Yuk's three rules.



- 1. STOP**
- 2. Don't Touch**
- 3. Ask First!**

**For poison emergencies, or to request Mr. Yuk stickers for your home, call the Maryland Poison Center.
1 (800) 222-1222**



WELCOME

The Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland welcomes the following new members:

Teri Cox, RN, BSN
John Arnold, EMT-I
Jennifer Johnson

PRMC Trauma Nurse Coordinator
PRMC Trauma/EMS Assistant
Wico. Co. Health Dept. Poison Prevention Educator

teri.cox@peninsula.org
john.arnold@peninsula.org
johnsonJL@dhmh.state.md.us

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 6-June 6, 2006 Chief's Challenge
Local law enforcement "buckle up" education and enforcement campaign.

April 11, 2006; 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.
Child Safety Seat Check,
Salisbury WIC Office

April 21, 2006; 9:00 a.m.
SKLSM Coalition Mtg., Coop. Ext Office

April 24-28, 2006
Playground Safety Week

April 27, 2006
CPS Renewal Course #MD20060217318
Dorchester Co. Health Dept.
(410) 767-1363

May 6-13, 2006
National Safe Kids Week

May 13, 2006; 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Safe Kids Day, YMCA Salisbury

June 21, Aug 22, October 11; 6- 9 p.m.
PRMC Infant/Child CPR Class
Peninsula Cardiology
(410) 543-7126

6/23, 7/7, 7/21, 8/4, 8/18; 8:30 a.m-4
PRMC Safe Sitter Course
(410) 543-7126

Consumer Product Safety Alerts

3-in-1 Simplicity Crib Model 8740KCWSC

Distributor: Graco by Simplicity, Inc.

Hazard: Screws on the wooden mattress support can come loose, allowing a portion of the mattress to fall and pose a suffocation hazard. 14 reports received, including 8 incidents of trapped children, five injuries include scratches and bruises, 1 child reported to have turned blue and one death in January 2005.

Manufacture Date: July 2003 – April 2005.

Sold: Department stores and children's product stores nationwide from August 2003 – April 2005.

Remedy: Consumers should contact the manufacturer at (800) 784-1982 or www.simplicityforchildren.com.



Pull-Along Snail

Distributor: Brio Corp. of Germantown, Wisconsin.

Hazard: The snail toy is sold with a rattle containing a bell. The rattle can come apart, and the bell poses a small parts choking hazard to young children.

Manufacture Date: September 2005 – January 2006.

Sold: Specialty toy stores nationwide, web retailers and mail order catalogs for about \$13.

Remedy: Consumers who purchased this toy should take it away from their child immediately and contact BRIO at (888) 274-6869 or www.brio.net for information on a replacement product.



Children's Toy Jewelry – Girl's party favors

Importer: MTC-Man's Trading Company of Brisbane, California.

Hazard: The recalled jewelry could break, releasing small beads that pose an aspiration hazard to young children.

Sold: Various dollar stores nationwide from July 2003 – December 2005 for about \$1.

Remedy: Consumers should take these recalled items away from children immediately and discard them or return them to the store where purchased for a refund. www.mtcmans.com or (800) 388-7228.



Little Tikes Animal-Shaped Flashlights

Distributor: Little Tikes Co., of Hudson, Ohio.

Hazard: The light green paint on the dinosaur-shaped flashlight and the brown paint on the dog-shaped flashlight could contain excessive levels of lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects.

Sold: Only at Target stores nationwide from November 2005 – December 2005 for about \$10.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the recalled flashlights away from young children and contact Little Tikes at (866) 765-6729 or <http://littletikes.com> for replacement information.



Lower Shore Maryland
108 East Main Street
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 334-3480 ext. 211

*Serving Dorchester,
Somerset, Wicomico &
Worcester Counties*



Safe Kids Day 2006

Saturday, May 13th
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
YMCA, Salisbury



Call (410) 334-3480 for more information.

Attention parents of children ages 7 ½ to 12 with Asthma...

Camp SuperKids is a fun and safe summer experience where campers learn how to manage their asthma. Located at Camp Friendship in Laytonsville, MD from July 16 through July 21, 2006. The cost is \$300 per child for a week of camp. Sponsored by the American Lung Association of Maryland. Scholarships are available. For an application or to receive more information contact Heather Dougherty at (410) 560-2120 ext 224.

Know someone who would enjoy receiving our newsletter? Call us at (410) 334-3480.

Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland
108 East Main Street
Salisbury, Maryland 21801