

Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland SAFETY NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 2

Winter 2005/2006

Happy Holidays from Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland!



It's hard to believe the year is almost over and we are well into the busy holiday season. Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland (SKLSM) has worked diligently this year on activities that promote safety education and exist to prevent childhood injuries in the local community. Working in hot and freezing temperatures, rain, sleet,

snow and shine, volunteers have managed to check over 385 child safety seats. Through community grants, the Eastern Shore Child Safety Seat Trailer was able to give 138 child safety seats free of charge to qualifying families. SKLSM has also been busy educating daycare providers and childcare centers on the importance of safe child transport. This past summer we conducted a survey of all local school playgrounds checking for potential hazards and are now beginning to work with local PTA's to educate parents about playground safety. SKLSM continues to grow stronger each year because of our willing volunteers and community support. SKLSM wishes you a happy holiday season and a joyous New Year!

**Interested in a child safety presentation?
Call us at (410) 334-3480 x211.**

Helmets Offer Protection for Winter Activities

Children love winter activities such as sledding, snowboarding, in-line skating and hockey. While these activities can provide hours of great entertainment, safety must always be a priority. Major head injuries, while rare, are a leading cause of death from winter sports. Damage to the brain can be permanent. SKLSM recommends wearing an approved helmet whenever children are participating in wheeled activities.

Here are some tips to keep in mind when purchasing or using a helmet:

- ✓ Buy only approved helmets (ASTM, SNELL or CSA)
- ✓ Try the helmet on before you buy it. It should sit level on the top of the child's head and should not be loose.
- ✓ Never purchase a used helmet. It may have been damaged.
- ✓ Replace helmets every 5 years.
- ✓ Follow manufacturer's instructions.

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*"Wearing a helmet
can reduce the risk of
head injury by 85%."*



**Never leave a
burning candle
unattended.**

Holiday Safety Tips 2005

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate nearly 6,000 injuries every year can be directly linked to holiday decorating. To ensure all have a safe holiday season, check out these decorating tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Trees

- When purchasing an artificial tree look for the label "Fire Resistant."
- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness.
- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators, or portable heaters and be sure to keep the stand filled with water.

Decorations

- Place ladders on secure surfaces and avoid standing on furniture.
- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree.
- Never burn candles on a tree or near other evergreens.
- Always use non-flammable candleholders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.

Lights

- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they are certified for outdoor use.
- Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shock.
- Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

www.aap.org

Safe Holiday Travel

Are you planning to travel this holiday season? If so, be sure your child safety seat is properly installed. Statistics show that properly installed child safety seats save lives.

Did you know...

- As many as 4 out of 5 car seats are installed incorrectly?
- The back seat is the safest place for children to ride?
- Car seats reduce the risk of infant death in a crash by 71%?
- MD law requires children age 6 and 40 pounds ride in a properly installed federally approved child safety seat?

SKLSM understands car seats can be complicated to install. That's why we're encouraging parents, grandparents, caregivers and others to call and schedule an inspection. To find an inspection station near you, call SKLSM at (410) 334-3480 Ext 211 or visit the Maryland Kids in Safety Seats website at www.mdkiss.org.

Local Safety Seat Inspection Contacts

Dorchester County
Dorchester County Health Department
(410) 901-8164

Somerset County
Somerset County Sheriff's Office
(410) 651-3882

Wicomico County
Wicomico County Health Department
(410) 334-3480 Ext 211

Worcester County
Ocean City Police Department
(410) 723-6610

Worcester County Health Department
(410) 632-0056

SKLSM Staff News

After several years of dedicated service to the Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland Coalition, Co-coordinator Dan Tabler will be retiring. His dedication to serving children and his expertise in the field of bike safety will be greatly missed. We wish him all the best in the years to come!

Congratulations to Tammy (Stewart) Griffin, SKLSM Co-coordinator. Tammy and Barry Griffin were married on November 12th. Tammy's new e-mail address is GriffinTL@dhmh.state.md.us.

Events Calendar

December 23, 2005; 9:00 a.m.
SKLSM Monthly Meeting

February 5-11, 2006
National Burn Awareness Week

February 12-18, 2006
Child Passenger Safety Week

March 14, 2006; 10:00 a.m.
State Safe Kids Quarterly Mtg.

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

April 24-28, 2006
Playground Safety Week

May 6-13, 2006
National Safe Kids Week

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

June 23, July 7, July 21,
August 4, August 18; 8:30 a.m-4
PRMC Safe Sitter Course
410-543-7126

Consumer Product Safety Alerts



Product: Safety 1st and Kid Trax Battery Powered Ride-On Vehicles

Distributor: Dorel Juvenile Group USA, of Columbus, Ind.

Hazard: An electronic malfunction can occur in the ride-on vehicle's circuit board and/or battery connector, resulting in smoking and melting of components. This poses a fire hazard and burn hazard to consumers if components are touched while malfunctioning.

Manufacture Date: January 2004 – August 2005.

Sold: Major toy stores and mass merchandise outlets nationwide under the brand Safety 1st and Kid Trax by Safety 1st from January 2004 – August 2005 for about \$300.

Remedy: Consumers should take the recalled ride-on vehicles away from children immediately and contact the company at **(866) 611-3022** or **www.djgusa.com** for a free repair.



Product: Chuck E. Cheese Plastic Siren Whistle

Distributor: CEC Entertainments of Irving, Texas

Hazard: The recalled plastic siren whistle's internal pieces can detach from the toy, posing a choking hazard to children.

Sold: Chuck E. Cheese's nationwide from July 2005 – August 2005.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take the recalled plastic siren whistle away from children and discard it. Free replacement whistles can be obtained by visiting any Chuck E. Cheese's or contacting the company at **(888) 778-7193** or **www.chuckecheese.com**.



Product: 10-in-1 Activity Trunks by Kid Connection

Distributor: Wal-Mart Stores Inc., of Bentonville, Arkansas

Hazard: Some of the toys in these trunks contain small parts, posing a choking hazard to young children.

Sold: Wal-Mart stores exclusively nationwide from July 2005 –September 2005 for about \$15.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately take these toys away from young children and return the product to Wal-Mart for a full refund. **(800) 925-6278** or **www.walmart.com**.



Lower Shore Maryland

Preventing unintentional injuries.

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

GriffinTL@dhmh.state.md.us

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.

RECIPE FOR FUN:

Snowball Cookies!

Ingredients

1C Butter or Margarine
½ C Powdered sugar, sifted
1 tsp Vanilla
2 ½ C Flour, sifted
¼ tsp Salt
¾ C Pecans, chopped



Cream butter in large bowl. Add sugar, cream until light. Stir in vanilla. Sift flour and salt, mix in. Stir in nuts. Shape into balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 15 minutes at 350°. Roll in powdered sugar straight out of oven. Roll again when cool. Makes about 36 cookies.

Source: www.kidsdomain.com



*Do you know someone who would enjoy receiving our newsletter?
Call us at (410) 334-3480.*



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108 East Main Street
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