



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION

The SAFETY REVIEW

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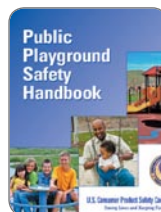
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Summertime!

Warm weather means having fun outside, and in this issue, we're focusing on summer activities that are fun, but can also be hazardous.



Drop by any playground and you'll find kids swinging and sliding. Unfortunately, each year about 200,000 children are treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries related to playground equipment. Building safer playgrounds can prevent many of these injuries, and I'm proud to announce an update to the popular Public Playground Safety Handbook, which contains guidance for building safer playgrounds and has been incorporated into many local and state building codes.

Children's outdoor sports and recreation activities can also be dangerous. Bicycling topped a list of sports-related injuries to children younger than 15 in 2006, with nearly 240,000 emergency room-treated injuries. CPSC staff also estimates nearly 85,000 baseball and 65,000 skateboard injuries. Latest death data indicates all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) were involved in the most deaths to children younger than 15 years old, 149 in 2004. Bicycles were involved in at least 77 deaths in the same age group, and there were at least four deaths involving skateboards.

I'd like to remind parents that helmets and safety gear are the #1 priority for kids. Wearing a bicycle helmet while biking, for example, can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent according to a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The bottom line: wear all the safety gear, rain or shine, hot or cold, whatever the sport.



So, enjoy the summer, but remember to keep it fun by staying safe.

Nancy Nord
Acting Chairman

Have a question or comment about the newsletter?
E-mail us at feedback@cpsc.gov



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

The SAFETY REVIEW

From Tragedy To INSPIRATION

Every parent's nightmare is to outlive their child, but one brave woman has turned her personal tragedy into a life-saving message for others. Marcia Kerr, a 16-year CPSC Consumer Information Officer and Field investigator, lost her son in a drowning accident when he was just two years old. *The Safety Review* talked with Marcia about her loss and the tireless work she has done since to prevent others from experiencing a similar incident.



TSR: Can you talk about what happened with your son?

MK: My two youngest kids, then ages 2 and 3, were at home with the nanny. They were asleep on the couch, so she went into the kitchen to make lunch. My son woke up and quietly went outside to the pool.

My 3-year-old daughter was the one who found him. She thought he was asleep in the pool and she got on her tummy and grabbed him, but she couldn't pull him

know much about CPSC at the time, but joined the Agency to devote my time to help ensure that preventable drownings don't happen.

Additionally, I was a founding board member of the National Drowning Prevention Alliance, and am currently on the advisory council. The NDPA is a group of health educators, experts and researchers who focus on drowning prevention. We share best practices and resources so that everyone can benefit from the work of others.

TSR: What advice can you give parents?

MK: When people talk about pool safety, supervision always comes up. We still hear people say, "It can't happen to me" and "I watch my child all the time," and these are just myths. Supervision is important, but parents don't stare at their children while they're asleep. What you can do is have layers of protection in place. That means barriers and safety regarding entrapments.

"Barriers would have prevented the death of my son"

out. The nanny came out and froze, and started screaming. A sheriff who lived next door heard the screams and pulled my son out, but it was too late. He'd been in the water for too long.

TSR: Understandably, this event has changed your life. What's happened since then?

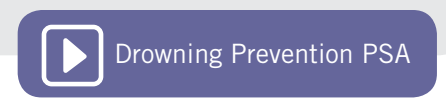
MK: That event has defined my life and shaped my career. Back then, I was involved in animal health, but when this happened, I wanted to get involved with safety, particularly with kids. I didn't

TSR: New national legislation was recently passed covering pool and spa safety.

MK: I'm very excited about the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. Since my son drowned, I've worked at the state and local levels on barrier recommendations and the adoption of safety codes. As a result, many parents and public health professionals have promoted pool barriers. Now, with the new legislation, attention is also being focused on entrapments.

Our son drowned in our home pool, and we felt like we were good parents and followed safety suggestions, but we didn't have the layers of protection that CPSC suggests. These barriers would have prevented the death of my son and many others.

I talk to schools, church groups, day-cares, community groups -- I'll talk to anyone who will listen to my story. My advice? It comes down to this: Parents, take action and be proactive. Keep your families intact.





POOL SAFETY

Be there, for those who matter

New data from CPSC indicate drowning deaths in pools and spas involving children younger than 5 have increased to a yearly average of 283. Pools are fun on a hot day and a great way to cool off, but they can be dangerous and tempting to young kids. Supervision and barriers are the keys to protecting your loved ones.

Layers of Protection

Pools are fun on a hot day and a great way to cool off, but they can be dangerous and tempting to young kids. Supervision and barriers are the keys to protecting your loved ones.

Beware of Entrapments

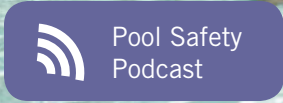
Suction drain entrapments involving hair and body parts can lead to death and injury. The suction can be so powerful that it can hold an adult under water, but most entrapment incidents involve children. Do not allow children to play in a pool with missing or broken drain covers.

Look in the Pool First

Precious time is often wasted looking for missing children anywhere but in the pool. Since every second counts, always look for a missing child in the pool or spa first. Be prepared for an emergency by having rescue equipment and a phone near the pool. Also, parents should learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Drowning is Silent

Parents may think that if their child falls in the water, they will hear lots of splashing and screaming, and that they will be able to come to the rescue. Many times, however, children slip under the water silently. Even people in the pool have reported hearing nothing out of the ordinary during drowning incidents.



Download and use this great poster!



RECALL SPOTLIGHT

WAXCESSORIES® RECALLS ELECTRIC SIMMER POTS DUE TO RISK OF FIRE AND SHOCK

Name of Product: Electric Simmer Pots

Units: About 830,000

Importer: Waxcessories® Inc., of Dracut, Mass.

Hazard: The simmer pots have wire connections that can become loose, posing a risk of fire and electric shock to consumers.

Incidents/Injuries: There have been 161 reports of discolored cords, loose wires, and wires separating from the pot. No injuries have been reported.

Description: The electric simmer pots were sold in a variety of styles and were designed to melt scented wax in a ceramic cup. The cup sits on a ceramic base that contains a 40-watt bulb, socket and electric cord. The recall includes all designs of the electric simmer pots and all item numbers. The words "ELECTRIC SIMMER POT" and the design name are printed on the bar code label, which is located on the bottom of the base. For a complete list of individual item numbers and photos, visit the firm's recall Web site at www.simmerpotrecall.com

Sold at: Gift and novelty shops nationwide from April 2002 through April 2008 for between \$17 and \$25.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should stop using the simmer pots immediately and contact Waxcessories for instructions on receiving a free replacement product.

Consumer Contact: For further information, call (800) 899-5884 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the recall Web site at www.simmerpotrecall.com



SIGN UP for recalls



Sign up for this FREE resource! Signing up is easy, it's fast, and it could save your life or the life of a family member. Simply provide us with your e-mail address, and start receiving important information today. As soon as there's a recall, you'll know about it.

✓ SIGN UP NOW



RECENT RECALLS



MAGNETIC DART BOARDS

Henry Gordy International Inc., of Plainfield, N.J., is recalling about 870,000 Fun 'N Games Magnetic Dart Boards. Small magnets at the ends of the darts can detach.



SEASONAL WRITING PENS

Michaels Stores Inc., of Irving, Texas, is recalling about 310,000 Flower Writers; Christmas Writers; Easter Writers; and Spooky Writers Seasonal Writing Pens. The pens' surface coating contains high levels of lead.



PLUSH INSECT TOYS

Dollar Tree Stores Inc., of Chesapeake, Va., is recalling about 300,000 Cuddly Cousins Plush Insect Toys. The toys contain small parts, posing a choking hazard to small children.



CHILDREN'S SUNGLASSES

StyleMark Inc., of Ormond Beach, Fla., is recalling about 144,000 pairs of Children's Sunglasses. Surface paint in the orange lettering on the temples of the sunglasses contains excessive levels of lead.



LAPEL PINS

Nintendo of America Inc., of Redmond, Wash., is recalling about 71,000 Character-themed lapel pins. The metal lapel pin contains high levels of lead.



CANDLE HOLDERS

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., of Bentonville, Ark., is recalling about 61,000 Holiday Times Candle Holders. The candle holders could tip over, posing a fire hazard. Also, the glass holder could break, posing a laceration hazard to consumers.



LOCKS

Master Lock, of Oak Creek, Wis., is recalling about 27,000 Lock and Leash™ Locks. Red surface paint on the locks contains excessive levels of lead.



FAKE TEETH

FUNTASTIC, of Houston, Texas, is recalling about 26,000 Hillbilly Teeth. The gray surface paint on the teeth contains excessive levels of lead.



COMPOSITE DECK CLEANER

Cabot Stains (a division of Valspar Corp.), of Newburyport, Mass., is recalling about 24,000 containers of Cabot Composite Deck Cleaner. One of the components of the composite cleaner can react with metal foil residue on the packaging, releasing heat and chlorine gas.



CHILDREN'S BOARD BOOK SETS

Pier Dalmatian Press LLC, of Franklin, Tenn., is recalling about 17,000 Little Builder Children's Board Book Sets with Toys. The cylinder on the toy concrete mixer and the tailgate on the toy dump truck can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.



For the latest recalls from around the Federal Government.



Be Safety Savvy YEAR ROUND

With every change in season, there are new activities, but with those activities come new hazards in and around the home. Consumers should never take a holiday from safety.

In the summer, fireworks, grilling and swimming are popular, along with family vacations and garden projects. In the winter, holiday decorations, toys and cooking are on everyone's mind. CPSC has simple tips to keep you and your family safe 12 months a year.

This month, fireworks take the spotlight as millions of families start getting ready for the exciting 4th of July holiday. In future months, stay tuned for more safety tips that come just in time for you to use and share!

January	Home Heating/ Carbon Monoxide Safety
February	Poison Prevention
March	Fire Safety Nursery Safety
April	Helmet Safety Public Playground Safety
May	Drowning Prevention
June	Fireworks Safety
July	Grilling Safety Travel Safety
August	Back to School Safety
September	Baby Safety Month
October	Window Safety Month Halloween Safety
November	Toy/Holiday Shopping Safety Cooking Safety
December	Holiday Decorating Safety

Don't Blow it!

Follow these simple tips:

- Never allow young children to play with fireworks.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.
- Light one item at a time, then move back quickly. Never have any portion of your body directly over a firework.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully functioned. Douse with water and throw away.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap. All used fireworks should be extinguished.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- Sparklers have caused more injuries to children under age five than any other type of fireworks. Sparklers burn at temperatures hot enough to melt some metals.



 [View Fireworks Demonstration](#)