



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION

The SAFETY REVIEW

APRIL 2009
EDITION

NANCY NORD
ACTING CHAIRMAN

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COMMISSIONER

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Spring Cleaning for Safety

Spring time is finally here! With the warm weather comes sunny afternoons with yard work and rainy days indoors to catch up on "spring cleaning." I urge you to read this month's article on avoiding injuries while doing yard work.

I also want to bring your attention to some important things about spring cleaning to remember. When you are going through old clothes, toys and furniture, keep in mind before you take these things to your local thrift shop, which articles could have been recalled by the CPSC. Often, when products are no longer being used, they get thrown to the side and wind up in the garage sale pile or in the bags headed to the local thrift shop. But consumers should check these items against our recall list as well. The manufacturer may offer a refund or a fix for the product so it can continue to be enjoyed.

To keep up to date on CPSC recalls, go to our Web site and sign up for e-mail recall alerts. Enjoy your spring – safely!

Nancy Nord
Acting Chairman



Springtime

Follow these tips from CPSC when using power tools and equipment

In most of the country, with the warmer temperatures and sunnier days, homeowners are starting to work on their lawns and gardens. But with the annual rush to get yards in shape, too often, there is also a rush to the hospital to treat an injury. The tools and equipment used to make the job easier can also be hazardous when not used safely. Mowers, saws, chippers, blowers and a variety of other tools need special care.

Follow these tips from CPSC when using power tools and equipment:

- Never allow young children to operate or play on powered equipment.
- On ride-on mowers, mow up-and-down slopes, not across, to prevent tip-over.
- When shopping for a ride-on mower, look for a label that shows the mower meets the 2003 ANSI B71.1 standard. This indicates that the machine has safety features, including one that prevents the mower from backing-up when the blades are operating.
- Eye and hand protection are essential to safeguard against stones, sticks and other flying debris.
- Always turn off the machine before leaving it unattended, when refueling, or when clearing debris from in or around the machine.
- Use caution when refueling. Keep fuel in appropriate, child-resistant containers.



Mowers



78,773
injuries*



**Trimmers,
Small Powered
Garden Tools**

19,928
injuries*



**Chain
Saws**

26,669
injuries*



**Tillers and
Cultivators**

1,594
injuries*

*Estimated number of product-related injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in '07.



Check **CPSC's Web site** for more consumer information, safety tips and recalls of outdoor power equipment.



Window Screens Keep Out Bugs, But Won't Keep in Kids

After months of enduring a long and cold winter, most of us are anxious for springtime. Warming temperatures and spring breezes lead us to open the windows in our homes, but before you do, CPSC urges you to consider safety first. While open windows may seem harmless, they have proven to be sources of injuries and deaths for young children. Just last month, a 2-year-old toddler sustained head injuries after falling through an open window in a two-story apartment building in Miami. Incidents like this are far too common, with more than 3,700 children being sent to hospital emergency rooms each year.

To help prevent injuries and tragedies, CPSC recommends the following safety tips:

- Safeguard your children by using window guards or window stops.
 - Install window guards to prevent children from falling out of windows. (For windows on the 6th floor and below, install window guards that adults and older children can open easily in case of fire.)
 - Install window stops so that windows open no more than 4 inches.
- Never depend on screens to keep children from falling out of windows.
- Whenever possible, open windows from the top – not the bottom.
- Keep furniture away from windows, to discourage children from climbing near windows.
- Some jurisdictions require landlords to install guards. Check your local regulations.





A Helmet Could Prevent a Severe Head Injury

Helmet head never looked so good.



There are different helmets for different activities.

Each type of helmet is made to protect your head from injuries related to a specific sport.

Play safe. Wear a helmet.

Use your head. Wear a helmet.

For many sports activities, a helmet can reduce the risk of serious head injury and even save your life. If you are wearing an appropriate helmet during a fall or collision, most of the impact energy can be absorbed by the helmet, rather than your head and brain.

All helmets are not created equal.

There are different helmets for different sports and some that can be worn for multiple sports or activities. Each type of helmet is designed to protect your head from the impacts common to a particular sport or activity. Bicycle helmets manufactured after 1999 must meet CPSC's bicycle helmet standard. CPSC's guide, "Which Helmet for Which Activity" can help you choose your helmet.



Which Helmet for Which Activity?

See inside for an answer to this and other questions.



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
CPSC hotline: 800-638-2772
and 800-638-8270 (TTY)



Sign up to receive free NSN safety alerts and posters at

www.cpsc.gov

Each year, more than 300,000 children are treated in hospital emergency departments for injuries related to biking, skateboarding and scooters. So whether it's a quick spin around the driveway or a trip around the block, use your head and strap on a helmet every time.



RECALL SPOTLIGHT

URGENT ALERT!

More than 5 million cribs, bassinets and play yards have been recalled in the last two years.

Babies spend much of their time sleeping; therefore, the nursery should be the safest room in the house.

Check to see if your crib has been recalled. Since the beginning of 2007, more than 5 million cribs, play yards and bassinets have been recalled.


With any crib, bassinet or play yard, following a few simple rules will keep babies sleeping safely and will give parents a better night's sleep:

- To prevent suffocation, never place pillows or thick quilts in a baby's sleep environment. Also, make sure there are no gaps larger than two fingers between the sides of the crib and the mattress.
- Proper assembly of cribs is paramount. Follow the instructions provided and make sure that every part is installed correctly. If you are not sure, call the manufacturer for assistance.
- Do not use old, broken or modified cribs. Infants can strangle to death if their bodies pass through gaps between loose components or broken slats while their heads remain entrapped.
- Properly set up play yards according to manufacturers' directions. Only use the mattress pad provided with the play yard; do not add extra padding.
- Never place a crib near a window with blind or curtain cords; babies can strangle on curtain or blind cords.



Visit CPSC's [Crib Information Center](#) Web site today. Don't let your child sleep another night in a dangerous, potentially deadly crib.

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



Children's Activity Centers

Evenflo Co. Inc., of Miamisburg, Ohio, is recalling 213,000 Evenflo Activity Centers. When used as an activity table, the cap on one end of the product can loosen and fall off, posing a fall hazard to a young child.



Digital Timers

Intermatic Inc., of Spring Grove, Illinois, is recalling about 200,000 Intermatic DT17 Heavy Duty Digital Timers. The recalled timers can have a faulty ground connection, posing a shock hazard to consumers.



Toy Tool Sets

Disney Store USA LLC, of Pasadena, California, is recalling about 20,000 Playhouse Disney "Handy Manny" Toy Tool Sets. The tools contain eyes that can separate, posing a choking hazard to young children.



Wheelbarrows

True Value Co., of Chicago, Illinois, is recalling about 17,000 Green Thumb Twin Wheelbarrows. Over-inflating the tire could cause the wheel's plastic rim to break, posing an injury to the user.



Stair Gates

Dorel Juvenile Group USA, of Columbus, Indiana, is recalling 100,000 Safety 1st SmartLight Stair Gates. The hinges that hold the stair gate in place can break, posing a fall hazard to children if the gate is placed at the top of the stairs.



Outdoor Stoves

Jetboil Inc., of Manchester, New Hampshire, is recalling about 15,000 Personal Cooking Systems and Group Cooking Systems. A tight valve attached to the stove's fuel source can allow gas to leak, posing a fire hazard to consumers.



Toys

CBB Group Inc., of City of Commerce, California, is recalling about 39,000 Fishing Games, Rattles, Pull-A-Long Cars, Mini Pull Back Cars, and Cartoon Bubble Guns. The fishing games, baby rattles and pull-a-long cars contain small parts, which can detach and pose a choking hazard to children. The mini pull back cars and bubble guns have surface paints which contain excessive levels of lead, violating the federal lead paint standard.



Bicycles

Mavic USA, of Haverhill, Massachusetts, is recalling about 12,000 Bicycles with R-SYS Front Wheel Rims. The spokes on the bicycle's front wheel rim can break during use, posing a fall and crash hazard to riders.



Stuffed Toys

Old Navy LLC, of San Francisco, California, is recalling about 35,500 (in the United States) and 5,400 (in Canada) Stuffed Animal and Creature Toys. The stuffed toys have two button eyes that could detach from the toy, posing a choking hazard to young children.



Compound Bows

BowTech Archery, of Eugene, Oregon, is recalling about 8,000 "The General" Compound Bows. The ends of the bow's limbs can unexpectedly break during use and send fragments of the bow in the direction of the user or bystanders, posing a risk of injury.



For the latest recalls from around the Federal Government.