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Safe kids

Safe Kids monthly E-Newsletter contains information on new recalls, safety announcements, and events to help ensure your little ones safety all year long! Please call or email with your comments, or suggestions. Go to www.nlcsafekids.org today!!

September 21-27, 2008 is National Farm Safety & Health Week

Children living in rural areas are at greater risk of unintentional injury-related death than children living in urban areas. Each year in the United States, approximately 70 children ages 14 and under die from injuries occurring on a farm. In 2001, there were an estimated 22,648 injuries to youth under the age of 20 on a farm.

Nearly two-thirds of all injuries occurring on a farm happen when the child is not actively working. The environment on a farm allows a child to be exposed to hazards such as heavy tractors, harmful chemicals, complex machinery, pesticides, and large animals.

Safe Kids recommends these precautions:

- Make safe play areas on the farm, physically separated from animals, farm equipment and bodies of water. Make sure children wear personal flotation devices while on or near water.
- Ensure that space heaters, furnaces, fireplaces and wood-burning stoves are vented properly and inspected annually. Also, install smoke alarms in every sleeping area and on every level of your home. Test alarms once a month and change the batteries twice a year.

Child Safety Seat Inspections

Tuesdays & Thursdays – 4-7 PM, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
1st level of the Parking Garage

Wednesdays 10-1 PM *Mohegan Tribe
Eagle View Garage, Sandy Desert Road * Uncasville

1st and 3rd Friday of the Month
Norwich Fire Department * 10 North Thames Street

- Homes with fuel-burning heat sources should also be equipped with carbon monoxide detectors — a buildup of this odorless, invisible gas can be deadly. Install CO detectors in every sleeping area and on all levels of your home. Check the batteries every month.
- Kids should always wear equestrian helmets that meet safety standards when riding a horse or pony. Don't let kids ride without supervision, and select horses with child-friendly temperament.
- If it is necessary to walk along rural roads not marked for pedestrians, teach kids to walk on the shoulder of the road facing oncoming traffic (the left side) and to walk in a single file wearing retroreflective decals.

*Please note:
All Car Seat Checks are by
Appointment ONLY!!!!*

*Please bring your car seat,
directions to the car seat,
and the owner's manual for
your vehicle.*

Call: (860) 442-0733



September is Baby Safety Month

Safe Kids New London County offers baby safety tips

September is Baby Safety Month, and Safe Kids New London County reminds parents and caregivers to plan ahead to make safe spaces for babies “at home, at play and on the way.”

Safe Kids New London County Assistant Coordinator Kelly Murphy has the following safety tips for children ages 0-3:

- **In the nursery:** Remove pillows, soft bedding and toys from crib; put your baby “back to sleep” (face up) on a firm mattress. Keep cribs away from windows and furniture. Install guards on windows that you will open, and tie up cords on curtains and blinds. Install smoke alarms on every floor and outside all sleeping areas. Install safety gates at top and bottom of stairs.
- **In the kitchen:** Never leave a hot stove unattended. Keep hot liquids, poisons and electrical cords out of reach, and keep cleaning products and other poisons locked out of reach. Don’t let children under age 3 eat small, round or hard foods such as hot dogs, grapes, hard candy, nuts or popcorn.
- **In the bath:** Mix hot and cold water together, and test the temperature before putting the baby in. Set your hot water heater to 120 degrees to help prevent scalding. Never leave a baby alone in the bath.
- **On the playground:** Actively supervise children on the playground — be within arm’s reach. Avoid playgrounds with asphalt surfaces. Don’t let kids wear jewelry or drawstring clothes on the playground. Pools should be fenced on all four sides and have self-closing gates.



- **In the car:** Children under 13 should always ride in the back seat in proper restraints. Babies under 1 year old **and** 20 pounds must ride in a rear-facing car seat, reclined at a 45-degree angle. Always check the harness for proper fit.

Baby Safety Month is an annual observance led by the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association since 1991. The theme of this year’s program is “Baby Safety — A Partnership,” a reminder that baby safety is a shared responsibility of product manufacturers, retailers, health care providers, child advocacy organizations, government agencies and the community at large as well as parents and caregivers. For more information, visit www.jpma.org.



5 Ways to Get Your Preteen Buckled Up

Your kid stopped wearing belts? Know this: It’s a stage. Preteens talk back. They argue and test limits. But don’t give up. They’re still listening – even when it doesn’t show. Preteens everywhere say the people who influence them most are their parents. Not their friends. Not celebrities. You.

Here are five tips from parents who make sure their preteen is buckled up before they put a vehicle in gear.

1. Remind them.

Multitasking preteens can forget to buckle up. Make it a habit to check that everyone has a seat belt on before you put the car in gear.

2. Make it a rule.

Studies show most parents decide where their preteen sits in the car. Make buckling up in the back, in every car, a rule for your preteen. Then stick to it. They will test you – but not forever.

3. Make it fun.

Reward them for doing the right thing – not just wearing a belt, but getting others to do it. Or for sitting in a back seat, which is safer. One prized reward: They can pick the radio station.

4. Mention the cops.

Wearing a seat belt isn’t an option – it’s the law. Let your preteen know you can get a ticket if they don’t buckle up.

5. Be a role model.

Your preteen is watching you. They are more likely to buckle up if the driver does.