

Home Safety Tips

Greater Syracuse SAFE KIDS is committed to preventing unintentional injury to children in our community everyday. For more information contact Lead Agency, Onondaga County Health Department at 435-8485.



- Keep pot handles turned to the back of stove when cooking
- Keep poisonous products in their original bottles & out of children's reach
- Keep toilet lids down, use toilet locks
- Know 2 fire escape routes out of the house
- Install & test smoke alarms & carbon monoxide detectors monthly, replace batteries at Daylight Savings Time (2x a year)
- Keep hot water at 120 degrees (F) or lower
- Keep all knives & sharp utensils out of children's reach
- Prevent strangulation from window drapery or blind cords, use cord covers. FREE kits at 800-506-4636
- Cover outlets & switches & unused outlets should have safety plugs
- Cribs slates 2 3/8 inches (or less) apart
- Keep matches, lighters, & candles out of children's reach
- Keep the National Poison Control Center & 911 hotline numbers by each phone: 1-800-222-1222
- Safety gates should be used at stairways
- When riding on bikes, scooters, skateboards & skates helmets & safety gear is a must
- Keep cleaning supplies away from food
- For recalled products check www.CPSC.gov
- Have a first aid kit for emergencies
- Never leave children alone in or near water
- Keep all medicines & vitamins out of children's reach
- Children under 12, should be buckled in the back seat of car away from airbags
- Replace frayed electrical cords that cause fires
- Keep make-up, hair spray, cologne, & other personal products out of reach
- While swimming, boating or jetskiing, wear US Coast Guard approved life jackets
- Children not 4'9" tall & 80 lbs should ride in a booster seat
- Swing sets and jungle gyms securely anchored & have low impact materials underneath
- Small toy items (fit into a paper towel tube) could choke a child, toy chests should have light weight lid & safe closing hinges
- Prevent falls out windows especially on second story, use window guards
- Have a fire extinguisher available & know where located in the house
- Fireplaces should have a door and chimneys inspected & cleaned yearly
- House numbers should be easily seen for emergency services
- Lead is harmful and found in paint, dust, soil and tap water. Never vacuum paint chips. All children should be tested at age one and again at age two