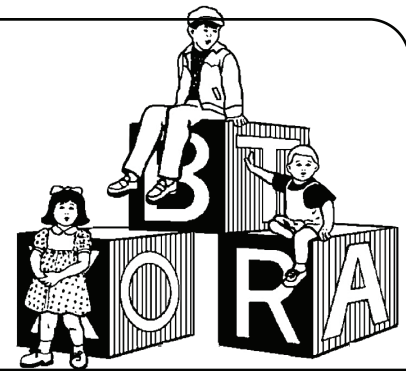


# Building Blocks to Safety

*A newsletter for prevention of childhood injuries*



North Dakota Department of Health      Fall/Winter 2008      Division of Injury Prevention and Control

## Infants Strangled to Death in Simplicity Bassinets

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is urging parents and caregivers to stop using convertible “close-sleeper/bedside sleeper” bassinets manufactured by Simplicity Inc. of Reading, Penn.. CPSC has learned that on Aug. 21, 2008, a 5-month-old girl from Shawnee, Kan., was strangled to death when she became entrapped between the bassinet’s metal bars. This is the second strangulation death CPSC has learned of in the close-sleeper bassinets. On Sept. 29, 2007, a 4-month-old girl from Noel, Mo., became entrapped in the metal bars of the bassinet and died.

The Simplicity 3-in-1 and 4-in-1 convertible bassinets contain metal bars spaced farther apart than 2 3/8 inches, which is the maximum distance allowed under the federal crib safety standard. The metal bars are covered by an adjustable fabric flap which is attached by Velcro. The fabric is folded down when the bassinet is converted into a bed-side co-sleeping position. If the Velcro is not



properly re-secured when the flap is adjusted, an infant can slip through the opening, become entrapped in the metal bars and suffocate.

Nearly 900,000 bassinets have been sold by retailers since 2001. Due to the serious hazard these bassinets pose to babies, CPSC urges all consumers to share this safety warning with day-care centers, consignment stores, family and friends to ensure that no child is placed to sleep in a Simplicity convertible bassinet covered by this warning.

Consumers should return the product to the store where purchased for a full refund or store credit.

## Furniture Pose Deadly Danger to Children

Found in various rooms of the home, large furniture such as TVs, chests, armoires and appliances are staples in our homes. But these items can tip over and crush children, causing injury or death. Last year, CPSC identified this issue as one of the “top five hidden home hazards.” The CPSC data shows at least 180 tip-over related deaths between 2000 and 2006, 80 percent involving children younger than 10. The report also indicates that

between 2005 and 2006, there were at least 40 reports of television and furniture-related tip-over deaths. These deaths and injuries frequently occur when children climb onto, fall against or pull themselves up on television stands, shelves, bookcases, dressers, desks, chests and stove oven doors. Televisions placed on top of furniture can tip over and cause a child to suffer traumatic and sometimes fatal injuries.

Continued on next page

## Furniture Pose Deadly Danger to Children (continued)

**These tragedies can be prevented by taking precautions. To help prevent tip-over hazards, CPSC recommends the following safety tips:**

- Verify that furniture is stable on its own. For added security, anchor all entertainment units, TV stands, bookcases, shelving and bureaus to the wall or floor using appropriate hardware, such as brackets, screws or toggles.
- Place televisions on sturdy furniture appropriate for the size of the TV or on a low-rise base.
- Push the TV as far back as possible from the front of its stand.
- Place electrical cords out of a child's reach, and teach children not to play with the cords.
- Remove items from the top of the TV and furniture that might tempt kids to climb, such as toys and remote controls.

## Drowning Dangers Inside the Home

Water anywhere can be a potential drowning hazard. While pools are an obvious risk, parents should not let their guard down around other hazards, such as bathtubs and buckets.

The CPSC is warning parents that children need to be supervised around these common but sometimes hidden drowning dangers. After pools, more children drown in bathtubs than in any other product in and around the home. From 2002 through 2004, CPSC received reports of 221 children younger than 5 who drowned in bathing-related incidents. Most of these children were younger than 2. Often these incidents involve caregivers leaving the room momentarily to answer the phone or door or to retrieve an item like a towel. In other incidents, an older sibling was left to watch a younger sibling.

Reported drowning incidents received by CPSC confirms another drowning hazard – buckets. CPSC has reports of 94 bucket-related drowning or submersion deaths from 1999 through 2006. All but one of these deaths were to children younger than 2.

Children can drown very quickly in only inches of water. Bathtubs, buckets and other containers in and around the home pose drowning hazards all year long.

**CPSC recommends parents and caregivers follow these safety tips when children are around bathtubs, buckets, spas, or decorative ponds or fountains:**

- Never leave young children alone near any water, even for a moment. Young children can drown in even small amounts of water.
- Always keep a young child within arm's reach in a bathtub. If you must leave, take the child with you. Never leave to answer the phone, answer the door, get a towel or for any other reason.
- Don't leave a baby or toddler in a bathtub under the care of another young child.
- Never leave a bucket containing even a small amount of liquid unattended. Toddlers can fall headfirst into buckets and drown. After using a bucket, always empty and store it where young children cannot reach it. Don't leave buckets outside where they can collect rainwater.
- Prevent children from gaining access to spas or hot tubs when not in use; always secure with safety covers and barriers.
- Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). It can be a lifesaver when there are only seconds to act.

**Did you remember to check your smoke detector to make sure it is working AND change your batteries when the time changed this fall?**



Visit the following websites for more information about product safety and injury prevention:

[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)  
[www.ndhealth.gov](http://www.ndhealth.gov)

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North Dakota Department of Health  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept 301  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0200  
800.472.2286

Terry Dwelle, M.D., State Health Officer  
Mary Dasovick, Division of Injury Prevention & Control Director  
Dawn Mayer and  
Carol Meidinger, Editors

This newsletter can be accessed at  
[www.ndhealth.gov/injury](http://www.ndhealth.gov/injury)



# Drop-Side Cribs Recalled

CPSC and Delta Enterprise Corp. are announcing the voluntary recall today of about 600,000



drop-side cribs. The crib's drop side can detach when the spring peg is not engaged, which can cause an entrapment and suffocation risk to infants and toddlers. If the spring pegs in the base of each leg of the crib are pushed back into the lower track, the pegs can become nonfunctional. This can cause the drop side to detach from the crib and create a gap that can entrap an infant or toddler.

CPSC staff is aware of the death of an 8-month-old child who suffocated when the drop side of his crib detached. CPSC is also aware of one child entrapment and one incident in which the drop side detached due to a disengaged spring peg.

The recall involves all Delta drop-side cribs manufactured before 2006 that use "Crib Trigger Lock with Spring Peg" drop-side hardware design. The recalled model numbers include 4340, 4343, 4520, 4600, 4620, 4624, 4625, 4629, 4660, 4665, 4720, 4750, 4751, 4850, 4855, 4857, 4880, 4920, 4925-2, 4925-2B, 4925-6, 4980, and 8605. The model number, country of origin and manufacture dates are located on top of the mattress support board. The recalled cribs have Delta's name and address on the mattress support boards and Delta's logo on the teether rail.

The cribs were made in China and sold at major retailers nationwide from January 2000 through January 2007. CPSC urge parents and caregivers to stop using these cribs immediately and contact Delta to receive a free, easy-to-install repair kit. Call Delta toll-free at .800.816.5304 or log onto [www.cribrecallcenter.com](http://www.cribrecallcenter.com) to order the free repair kit.

# Nerf Blasters Recalled

The CPSC and Hasbro Inc. are recalling 330,000 Nerf N-Strike Recon Blasters. They have received 46 reports of injury to children ages 4 to 12, resulting in bruising, abrasions, pinching, blood blisters and

welts. The blaster's plunger can pull the user's skin during firing of the toy blaster, resulting in injury to the face, neck and/or chest.

The recalled toy blaster is yellow with a black handle and orange plunger, trigger and reload clip. The model number 63552 and UPC codes 653569272021 and 653569311218 can be found on the packaging. Only blasters with an exposed orange plunger are included in this recall.



Wal-Mart, Target, Toys "R" Us, discount stores and toy stores nationwide sold the blaster from November 2007 through August 2008. Consumers should stop using the toy blasters immediately and contact Hasbro at 800.245.0910 for a free cylindrical cover to prevent additional injuries.

# Fisher-Price Pots and Pans Recalled

CPSC and Fisher-Price are recalling 15,000 learning pots and pans toys. Missing screws in the blue toy pan can cause the clear plastic cover to come loose and release small balls, presenting a choking hazard to young children.

The learning pots and pans toy sets are stackable pots and pans that have a lid and shape-sorting blocks. The toys have a light and sound feature that operate on three AA batteries. Model number G6685 is located on the bottom of the blue pan.

Discount department stores and toy stores nationwide sold the toy from October 2007 to August 2008. Consumers should examine the blue pan for six screws on the bottom of the pan. If all six screws are installed, no further action is necessary. If any screws are missing, consumers should stop using the toy and contact Fisher-Price at 888.521.0820 for a replacement pan.



# Toy Trains Recalled



CPSC and JA-RU Inc. are recalling 18,000 My Little Train Classics Toy Trains. The train contains small parts that can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

My Little Train Classics wooden toy trains are available in two styles: one with a yellow cab, blue body and six red wheels and the other with a blue cab, red boiler, wooden base and four black wheels. The item #5293 is the same for both styles and is located in the lower left hand corner on the front of the package.

The trains were sold at various wholesalers and retailers nationwide from March 2007 through October 2008. Consumers should stop using the toy immediately and return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. For more information, consumers should contact JA-RU at 800.231.3470.

# Claire's Necklaces Recalled

CPSC and Claire's Boutiques Inc. are recalling 67,000 best friends Yin Yang necklaces. The necklaces contain high levels of lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects.

The recall involves a set of two necklaces that have a silver-colored metal bead-type chain and a lobster-

claw clasp. One of the necklaces has a single, metal pendant with the word "Best" attached to a black yin metal pendant. The other necklace has the word "Friends" attached to a white yang metal pendant.

The necklaces were sold at Claire's Boutique's nationwide from April 2007 through August 2008.

Consumer should stop using the necklaces and return them to Claire's for a full refund. For more information, consumers should contact Claire's at 866.859.9281.



# Two-Way Radios Recalled

CPSC and Cobra Electronics are recalling 8,000 children's two-way radios. The rechargeable batteries in the radios can leak electrolyte, posing a chemical burn hazard to consumers.

The walkie-talkie style radios are made of pink plastic and come in purple packaging. Product number PR191-2VP is located on the front of the packaging and on the label inside the battery compartment.

The two-way radios were sold exclusively at Toys "R" Us Stores nationwide from August 2008 through September 2008. Consumers should stop using the radios and contact the company at 888.252.9889 or [www.cobra.com](http://www.cobra.com) for a free replacement and a coupon for 20 percent off a future purchase. If batteries have leaked onto the radio, do not touch the liquid.

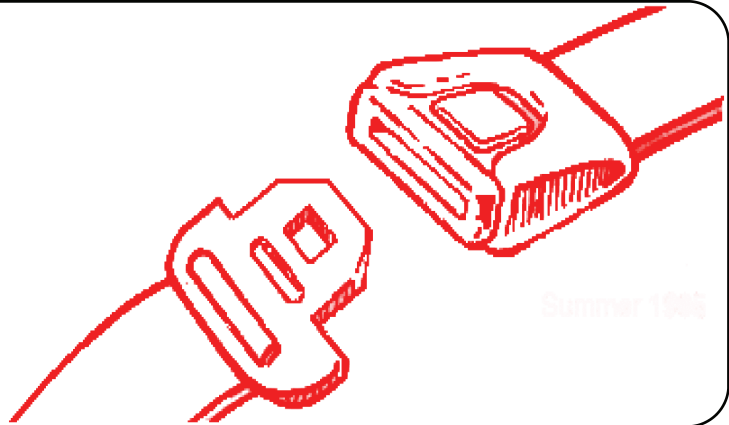
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# The Buckle Update



## Caution When Driving 15-Passenger Vans

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is urging all users of 15-passenger vans to take extra safety precautions when taking to the road.

NHTSA data shows a significant increase in rollover risk when the van is fully loaded with drivers and passengers. About 50 percent of the fatalities occurred in heavily loaded (10 or more people) vans that rolled over. Fifty-nine percent were unrestrained.

Other factors that contribute to rollover incidents with 15-passenger vans include improperly inflated tires, poor tire condition and inexperienced drivers.

**NHTSA offers the following safety tips for use of 15-passenger vans:**

- When the van is not full, passengers should sit in seats that are in front of the rear axle.
- All occupants should wear seat belts at all times.
- Inspect the tires and check tire pressure before each use.
- The vans should be operated only by trained, experienced drivers who operate these vehicles on a regular basis.
- Drivers should be well rested and limit use of cell phones, conversations with other passengers and drive time to eight hours per 24-hour period.

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## Who Wants To Be a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician?

So far in 2008, almost 60 individuals been certified as child passenger safety technicians following participation in and completion of a 32-hour training program provided by the North Dakota Department of Health and state and local Safe Kids Coalitions. The courses were held in Bismarck, Grand Forks, Fargo and Minot.

Through a series of lectures, hands-on activities and

skills testing, the students learned about crash dynamics, child restraint products and vehicle occupant protection systems. The new skills allow them to assist parents and caregivers in proper use of their child restraints.

For more information or details about the 2009 trainings, contact Dawn Mayer at [drmayer@nd.gov](mailto:drmayer@nd.gov) or 800.472.2286.

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## Recall Notification and Child Restraint Registration

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has announced two new features available at [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

The new feature allows consumers to be notified of car safety seat recalls and to register their car seats

with the appropriate manufacturer. The recall notification is sent by e-mail or to a PDA whenever a child restraint recall occurs. Child restraints may be registered through links to various manufacturers, making it easier for consumers and child passenger safety technicians to remember one website versus looking up the many different manufacturer sites.

## Recaro Signo/Como

Models: Signo and Como convertible seats. All manufactured before Dec. 18, 2007.

**Problem:** The harness straps may slip off the harness connector (splitter plate), resulting in the harness not securing the child in a crash.

**What To Do:** Call 800.8-RECARO or go to [www.recaro.com](http://www.recaro.com) for a repair kit. The kit consists of two rubber caps to install on the harness connector to close gaps that allow the harness to disconnect. Continue using the car seat until the repair kit arrives, but check to be sure the harness is attached at the connector each time the seat is used.

## Evenflo Discovery

Model #s 3021769Z and 3021854Z, made Feb. 4, 2008.

**Problem:** Some of the 1,038 units made on that date were produced without complete assembly of release handle located on the back of the seat, which could cause the seat shell to separate from the base in a crash.

**What To Do:** Contact Evenflo at 800.233.5921 or go to [www.evenflo.com](http://www.evenflo.com). Evenflo will replace the child restraint and will provide a postage-paid shipping label so the recalled seat can be returned. Consumers waiting for replacement should continue to use the restraint without the base.



## Combi Centre/ Shuttle

Models: Centre, Centre ARB and Shuttle Infant Restraints. Model #s 8065, 8074, 8086, 8087, 8520, 4400, 4515, 4520. Manufactured Oct. 19, 2005, through Dec. 15, 2007.

**Problem:** The child restraints meet existing government crash standards, but additional front impact testing has indicated that the shell could detach from the base when crash forces are greater than those required by the government standards.



**What To Do:** Contact Combi at 800.543.7734 or go to [www.combi-intl.com](http://www.combi-intl.com) for a retrofit kit. Consumers should use the car seat without the base until the retrofit kit arrives.

## Cosco Touriva/Regal Ride

Touriva – Model # 22100TTD, 22100FSM, 22100TIP, 22111FSM, 22130WAL, 93100FSM, 93111FSM, manufactured Sept. 28, 2004, through Sept. 20, 2007.

Regal Ride: Model #22139MON

**Problem:** The elastic straps that secure the padding to the child restraint could become loose and be accessible to the child. The child could then loop the strap around portions of his body.

**What To Do:** Call 888.698.6681 or go to [www.djgusa.com](http://www.djgusa.com) to order a repair kit that consists of four pieces of Velcro and instructions for replacing the elastic straps with the Velcro.

## Nania Baby Ride

Baby Ride Infant Seat, Model #374099, manufactured Aug. 31, 2006, and Oct. 23, 2006.

**Problem:** On some child restraints made on these two dates, labels showing a “horizontal level line” were attached in the wrong places. Using these lines as a reference point would over-recline the child restraint

**What To Do:** Call 877.912.1313 for corrected labels.