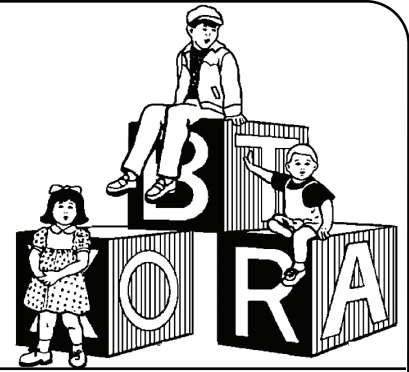


Building Blocks to Safety

*A newsletter for prevention of
childhood injuries*



North Dakota Department of Health Fall 2007 Division of Injury Prevention and Control

Top Five Hidden Home Hazards

Whether is an apartment, duplex or single-family residence, the home is a place that is supposed to give families a feeling of safety and security. For many American families however, an injury to or the death of a loved one can turn this place of happiness into one of tragedy.

Each year, 33.1 million people are injured by consumer products in the home. Some hazards are from products the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has warned about for years; others come from new products and technologies. To keep Americans informed about dangers, the CPSC has identified the Top Five Hidden Home Hazards — associated with products that people may be using every day but are unaware of the dangers that they can cause. These home hazards are often unseen or unnoticed by consumers.

With no or very little investment, incidents and injuries from these dangers are preventable. Simply by being aware of these Top Five Hidden Home Hazards, many lives can be spared and life-altering injuries avoided.

#1 Magnets

Today's rare-earth magnets can be very small and powerful, making them popular in toys, building sets and jewelry. As the number of products with magnets has increased, so has the number of serious injuries to children. In several hundred incidents, magnets have fallen out of various toys and have been swallowed by children. Small intact pieces of building sets that contain magnets also have been swallowed by children. If two or more magnets, or a magnet and another metal object, are swallowed separately, they can attract to one another through

intestinal walls and get trapped in place. The injury is hard to diagnose. Parents and physicians may think that the materials will pass through the child without consequence, but magnets can attract in the body and twist or pinch the intestines, causing holes, blockages, infection and death if not treated properly and promptly.

Tip: Watch carefully for loose magnets and magnetic pieces and keep them away from children younger than 6. If you have a recalled product with magnets, stop using it, call the company today, and ask for the remedy.

#2 Recalled Products

CPSC is very effective at getting dangerous products off store shelves, such as recalled toys, clothing, children's jewelry, tools, appliances, electronics and electrical products. But once a product gets into the home, the consumer has to be on the lookout. Consumers need to be aware of the latest safety recalls to keep dangerous recalled products away from family members.

Tip: Get dangerous products out of the home. Join CPSC's "Drive To One Million" campaign and sign up for free e-mail notifications at www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx. An e-mail from CPSC is not spam — it could save a life.

#3 Tip-overs

Furniture, TVs and ranges can tip over and crush young children. Deaths and injuries occur when children climb onto, fall against or pull themselves up on television stands, shelves, bookcases, Dressers, desks and chests. TVs placed on top of

Continued on next page

Top Five Hidden Home Hazards (continued)

furniture can tip over, causing head trauma and other injuries. Items left on top of the TV, furniture and countertops — such as toys, remote controls and treats — might tempt kids to climb.

Tip: Verify that furniture is stable on its own. For added security, anchor to the floor or attach to a wall. Freestanding ranges and stoves should be installed with anti-tip brackets.

#4 Windows and Coverings

Children can strangle on window drapery and blind cords that can form a loop. Parents should use cordless blinds or keep cords and chains permanently out of reach of children. Consumers should cut looped cords and install a safety tassel at the end of each pull cord or use a tie-down device, and install inner cord stays to prevent strangulation. Never place a child's crib or playpen within reach of a window blind.

The dangers of windows don't end with window coverings and pull cords. Kids love to play around windows. Unfortunately, kids can be injured or die when they fall out of windows. Do not rely on window screens. Window screens are designed to keep bugs out, not to keep kids in.

Tip: Safeguard your windows: repair pull cords ending in loops and install window guards or stops today.

#5 Pool and Spa Drains

The suction from a pool drain can be so powerful that it can hold an adult under water, but most incidents involve children. The body can become sealed against the drain or hair can be pulled in and tangled. Missing or broken drain covers are a major reason many entrapment incidents occur. Pool and spa owners can consider installing a safety vacuum release system that detects when a drain is blocked and automatically shuts off the pool pump or interrupts the water circulation to prevent an entrapment.

Tip: Every time you use a pool or spa, inspect it for entrapment hazards. Check to make sure appropriate drain covers are in place and undamaged.

Toy Castles Recalled

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Infantino LLC are voluntarily recalling 68,000 shape-sorting toy castles. The plastic rod can come loose, allowing the colored counting beads to slide off the toy and posing a choking hazard to young children. Infantino has received four reports of children nearly choking on the colored beads after putting them into their mouths.

The recalled toy castles have the following date codes stamped on the underside of the blue top that can be viewed through the top square shape or top "A" letter openings: 5349, 6087, 6132 and 0906.



Wal-Mart, Target, Marshalls, Meijers and other specialty toy retailers nationwide sold the recalled castles from January 2006 through May 2007. Consumers should remove the recalled toy from young children right away and contact Infantino at 888.808.3111 for instructions about how to return the product for a free replacement. A free return shipping label can be accessed on the firm's web site at <http://service.infantino.com>.

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

www.cpsc.gov
www.ndhealth.gov

Building Blocks to Safety is published quarterly by the Injury Prevention Program, Division of Injury Prevention & Control



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www.ndhealth.gov

Magnets Prompt Many Toy Recalls

CPSC and the companies listed below are voluntarily recalling products due to small magnets detaching from the toys. Magnets found by young children can be swallowed or breathed into the lungs. If more than one magnet is swallowed, the magnets can attract each other and cause intestinal perforation or blockage, which can be fatal. The following products are recalled:

- 800 Mag Stix Magnetic Building Sets from Kipp Brothers (see picture below)

Contact Kipp Brothers for instructions about returning the product for a full refund at 800.428.1153

- 683,000 Barbie and Tanner play sets from Mattel (see picture below)

Contact Mattel at 888.597.6597 to receive a free replacement toy.



- 345,000 Batman and One Piece magnetic action figure sets from Mattel (see picture below)

Contact Mattel at 888.597.6597 for instructions about how to return it to receive a free replacement toy.

- 1 million Doggie Day Care play sets from Mattel (see picture below)

Contact Mattel at 888.597.6597 to receive a free replacement toy.



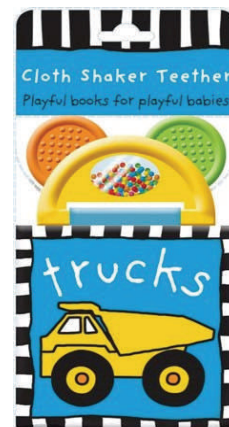
- 7.3 million various Polly Pocket dolls and accessories with magnets

Contact Mattel at 888.597.6597 to receive a voucher for a replacement toy of the customer's choice, up to the value of the returned product.



Teether Books Recalled

CPSC and St. Martin's Press are voluntarily recalling 35,000 Priddy Trucks Shaker Teether books. Small pieces of the teether can break off, posing a choking hazard to young children.



The recalled cloth teether book entitled "Trucks" has a yellow dump truck on the front cover on a blue background. Attached to the top of the book is a yellow rattle with a green teether attached on the right side of the rattle and an orange teether attached to the left side of the rattle.

Barnes & Noble and other bookstores and retailers nationwide sold the teether books from January 2006 to June 2007. Consumers should remove these toys from young children and contact St. Martin's Press at 800.347.9411 for instructions about returning the product for a free replacement product.

Recalled TV Stands Unsafe

CPSC and Sauder Woodworking are voluntarily recalling 414,000 TV stands. The TV stand can collapse if the fasteners used to connect the metal legs to the lower shelf are not completely tightened during assembly, posing a risk that the TV set can fall onto children or adults. Sauder has received 43 reports of TV stands collapsing. Three injuries required medical treatment.

The recalled TV stand has a brushed-maple finish and measures 23 3/4 inches high by 38 1/2 inches wide by 19 1/2 inches deep. The stand has crisscrossed, black, wrought-iron legs; a pull-out drawer and a lower shelf. Model number 400205 and UPC number 4266601958 are located on the product's carton and instructions.

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Recalled TV Stands Unsafe (continued)

Wal-Mart stores nationwide and online Wal-Mart.com sold the TV stand from January 2005 to May 2007.

Consumers should immediately stop using the TV stand if it moves from side to side. Consumers should contact Sauder at 866.218.8312 to receive detailed instructions about checking the tightness of the fasteners.



Toxic Toys Recalled

The CPSC and the firms listed below are voluntarily recalling the following consumer products. Consumers should stop using these recalled items because the products contain high levels of lead. Lead can be toxic and can cause adverse health effects to children.

Products recently recalled include:

103,000 Children's Metal Jewelry manufactured by Tween Brands Inc. and sold at limited Too and Justice retail stores nationwide. Remedy: Return the product to the store where purchased to receive a full refund and a coupon for a 15 percent discount off a future purchase.

27,000 Imaginarium Wooden Coloring Cases sold at Toys "R" Us Inc. Remedy: Return the product to Toys "R" Us for store credit.

675,000 Various Barbie Accessory Toys manufactured by Mattel and sold at retail stores nationwide. Remedy:

Stop using the product and contact Mattel at 888.496.8330 to receive a free replacement toy of equal value.

90,000 Geo Trax Locomotive Toys manufactured by Fisher-Price Co. and sold at retail stores nationwide. Remedy: Stop using the product and call Fisher-Price at 888.496.8330.

8,900 Big Big World 6-in-1 Bongo Band Toys manufactured by Fisher-Price Inc. and sold at retail stores nationwide. Remedy: Stop using the product and call Fisher-Price at 888.496.8330.

6,000 Robbie Ducky Kids Watering Cans manufactured by Jo-Ann Stores Inc. and sold at Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores nationwide. Remedy: Stop using the product and return it to the store where purchased for a full refund.

253,000 "Sarge" Die Cast Toy Cars manufactured by Mattel and sold at retail stores nationwide. Remedy: Contact Mattel to return the product to receive a replacement toy

967,000 Sesame Street, Dora the Explorer and Other Children's Toys manufactured by Fisher-Price Inc. and sold nationwide at retail stores. Remedy: Stop using the product and contact Fisher-Price at 800.916.4498 for instructions to return the product for a replacement toy voucher.

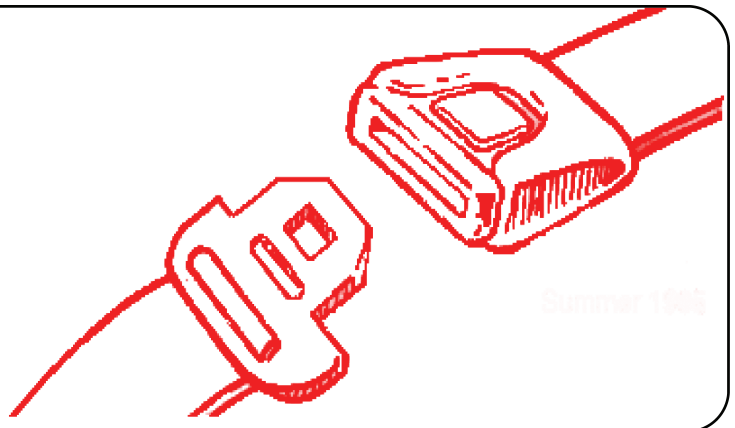
13,000 Soldier Bear Brand Toy Sets manufactured by Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and sold at AAFES stores nationwide. Remedy: Stop using the product and return the product to the nearest AAFES store for a full refund.

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The Buckle Update



Dorel Juvenile Group Announces Voluntary Safety Recall

Dorel Juvenile Group is issuing a voluntary safety recall for certain Cosco, Safety 1st and Eddie Bauer brand child restraint systems made between November 2003 and December 2005. Although no injuries have been reported, there is a potential for the harness adjustment strap to loosen during use. A loose harness would increase the risk of injury to a child in a crash.

The affected seats include:

- Cosco — Alpha Omega and Alpha Omega Elite with model numbers 22150, 22155, 22180 and 22269.
- Eddie Bauer — 3-in-1, Deluxe 3-in-1 and Deluxe Convertible with model numbers 22740, 22750, 22755, 22756, 22757 and 22770.
- Safety 1st — Alpha Elite, Alpha Omega, Alpha Omega Elite, Alpha Sport, Intera and Enspira with model numbers 22151, 22450, 22451, 22452, 22453, 22455, 22460, 22480 and 22481.



Consumers with these car seats should call Dorel at 800.219.0509 or visit www.djgusa.com for a free repair kit to replace the harness adjustment strap. Dorel



encourages parents to check for harness slippage by tightening the harness and then pulling the straps without pressing or lifting the harness adjustment lever. If movement occurs, the harness is slipping. Dorel then recommends that parents use a different car seat until the repair kit has been installed.

Graco Announces Safety Recall Notice for ComfortSport Car Seat

Graco Children's Products has announced a safety notice for the ComfortSport five-point harness convertible seat. The safety notice may affect ComfortSport car seats manufactured from January 2 through July 31, 2007, with the following model numbers: 8629TWL, 8631DFT, 8631DRA, 8632PSO, 8635TAC, 8639COS, 8C00BLG, 8C00DMN, 8C00GRP, 8C00LNW, 8C00MID, 8C00TMB, 8C01SVD, 8C01WTN, 8C02MGI, 8C02MRC, 8C03HAL, 8C03WCF, 8C04FRR, 8433FOF and 8630MTR.



On the affected seats, the lower anchorage belt was misrouted behind the shoulder portion of the harness instead of under the crotch portion. This misrouting could affect the performance of a car seat when used rear-facing with the LATCH system.

Owners of the ComfortSport should obtain instructions for inspecting and correct routing of the lower anchorage belt by calling Graco at 800.345.4109 or visiting www.gracobaby.com. The ComfortSport

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Graco Announces Safety Recall Notice for ComfortSport Car Seat (continued)

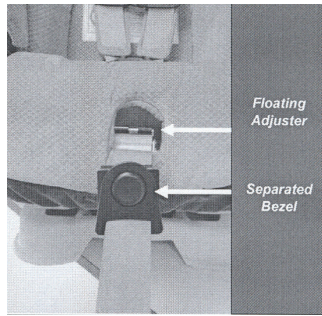
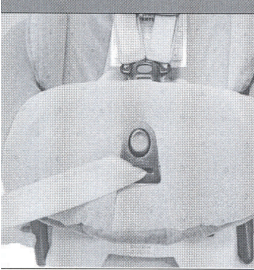
should not be used rear-facing with the LATCH system until the lower anchorage belt routing has been inspected and corrected. The car seat should be installed with the vehicle seat belt instead of the LATCH system until the correction is made.

Britax Recalls Decathlon Child Restraint

Britax Child Safety Inc. has announced a recall of the Decathlon child restraint, model number E9L47 manufactured from Feb. 12, 2005, through July 31, 2007.

Under certain circumstances when the harness adjuster strap is pulled from an extreme side angle, the bezel may separate from the child restraint shell, allowing the adjuster to move out of position in the shell housing. When this happens, it may be difficult to properly harness the child in the child restraint.

Extreme side tension applied to the harness adjuster strap



Britax will send owners a free kit with push rivet fasteners to correct the problem. Owners should contact Britax at 800.683.2045 or visit www.britaxusa.com.

Consumer Advisory for Britax Regent Child Restraint

Britax Child Safety Inc. is providing a free product update kit to owners of the Regent child restraint manufactured between Nov. 10, 2005, and June 18, 2007, with model number beginning with "E9L39."

The Regent car seat has two options for installing it, the long belt-routing and the short belt-routing methods. Britax has modified the Regent product and revised its instructions to require the long belt-routing method of installation for children weighing 22 to 40 pounds. For children weighing 40 to 80 pounds, the short belt-routing method is required. Britax says the product update will enhance the performance of the Regent child restraint.

Owners of the Regent child restraint should contact Britax at 888.427.4829 or visit www.britaxusa.com. They will be sent a free kit that includes a revised user guide, a replacement label, a longer LATCH connector strap and adhesive slip-restraint strips.

Reminder: Register Your Car Seat

The recent list of car seat recalls should serve as a reminder to consumers about the importance of registering their car seats so they can be notified directly in the event of a recall or safety notice. Car seats can be registered by returning the card that comes with all new car seats or by calling the manufacturer. Many manufacturers have an option for online registration. Following is a list of some child restraint manufacturers and their contact information:

Britax Child Safety Inc.	www.britaxusa.com	888.427.4829
Dorel Juvenile Group (Cosco, Eddie Bauer & Safety 1st)	www.djgusa.com	800.457.5276
Evenflo Company Inc.	www.evenflo.com	800.233.5921
Graco Children's Products	www.gracobaby.com	888.224.6549

