



#### Safe Kids Grand Forks For more information contact

Grand Forks, ND 58206-6002 c/o Altru Health System P.O. Box 6002

Coordinator: Carma Hanson Email: safekids@altru.org Phone: 701.780.1489 Fax: 701.780.6655

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Each year nearly 600 children ages 14 and under die and nearly 40,000 are injured in fires.

Burns have been recognized as the most painful and devastating injuries a person can sustain and survive.

Child-play fires are the leading cause of residential fire-related death and injury among children ages 9 and under.

## Did You Know?

- The youngest children are at greatest risk. Kids ages 5 and under are more than twice as likely to die in a fire than the rest of the population.
- Boys are nearly twice as likely as girls to play with fire.
- Child-play home fires tend to begin in a bedroom when children are left alone.
- Home cooking equipment is the leading cause of residential fires and fire relatec injuries.
- Residential fires caused by smoking materials (i.e. cigarettes) are the leading cause of fire-related deaths.
- Children in homes without smoke alarms are at the greatest risk.
- Home fires and fire-related deaths are more likely to occur during the cold weather months when there is a use of portable or area heating equipment such as fireplaces and space heaters.

# How and where burn deaths and injuries occur.

- Curling irons, room heaters, ovens and ranges, irons, and gasoline
- Hot foods and liquids spilled in the kitchen and where other food is prepared

- Hot tap water
- Fireworks Electrical cords and extension cords
- Microwave burns

# **Prevention Tips:**

- Never leave a child unattended, especially in the bathroom or kitchen.
- Install smoke alarms in your home on every level and in every sleeping area. Test them once a month and change the batteries as needed.
- Keep matches, lighters and other heat sources out of children's reach.
- Keep all portable heaters out of children's reach.
- Keep flammable items such as clothing, furniture, newspapers or magazines away from the fireplace, heater or radiator.
- Store all flammable liquids such as gasoline outside of the home.
- Avoid plugging several appliance cords into the same electrical socket.
- Never use the microwave to heat baby formula or milk in bottles.
- Do not use tablecloths or placemats that children can tug on, bringing down hot foods and liquids from the table.
- Teach young children never to touch the bathtub faucet. Face them away from bathtub fixtures where they will be less likely to manipulate faucets that are out of sight.
- Install covers on stove knobs.
- Keep electrical cords out of children's reach.
- Avoid toys with electrical cords or batteries for children under age 8.

- Make sure children's bath water temperature is no hotter than 100 degrees F. Use a tub temperature tester or your forearm to check the water's temperature before placing the child in
- Never leave candles burning unattended.

the water.

- Set your water heater to 120 degrees
  Fahrenheit or below.
- Use back burners and turn pot handles to the back of the stove when cooking.
- Cover unused electrical outlets with safety devices.
- Keep hot foods and liquids away from the table and counter edges.
- Never allow children to handle fireworks.

### **Teach Safety**

- Plan and practice two escape routes out of each room of the house. It is important to have an alternate escape route in case one is blocked by fire.
- Designate an outside meeting place, so all member of the family can be accounted for quickly.
- Teach children to crawl low under smoke and to touch doors before opening them.
- Teach children to "stop, drop and roll". Upon leaving a burning house or building, never go back into a building.
- Be sure you're not teaching your children bad habits. Don't let them see you smoke in bed or disconnect smoke alarm batteries.