

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

Scalds: A Burning Issue for Children

Burn Awareness Week
February 1-7, 2015
Topic: Scalds

Scalding is a burn that results from exposure to heated fluids such as boiling water or steam. Most scalds are considered first or second degree burns, but third degree burns can result, especially with prolonged contact.



DO

- Set water heater temperature to no higher than 120° F (48° C).
- Create a no kid zone in the kitchen around stoves, ovens and hot items.
- Keep hot drinks or food away from the edges of tables and counters.
- Use traveling mugs with tight-fitting lids for all hot drinks.
- Place pots and pan on the back burner with handle turned away from the edges of the stove.

DO NOT

In your home, especially if young children are present:

- Leave a child unattended in the bathtub. If you must leave, take the child with you.
- Allow young children to adjust the water temperature, and when bathing young children, seat the child away from faucets.
- Set anything hot on tablecloths or placemats, as young children can pull them down.
- Allow appliance cords (slow-cookers, deep-fryers) to dangle over the counter edge.

The Facts

- ✓ The average cost of scald injuries is \$44 million.
- ✓ Over 136,000 children were seen in emergency rooms for burn in 2011.
- ✓ 1,100 children die each year from fire and burns.



The Fix

If a burn injury does happen:

- 1) Cool the burn with COOL (not cold) water to stop the burning process.
- 2) Remove any clothing, diapers and jewelry around the injured area.
- 3) Cover the area with clean, loose bandages.
- 4) Seek medical attention.

Visit <http://www.ameriburn.org/preventionBurnAwareness.php> for more information on burn prevention.



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