

Bucks County SAFE Kids Coalition

1201 Langhorne-Newtown Rd, Langhorne, Pa 19047

Led by St Mary Medical Center

SUMMER GRILLING

There is no better time to start thinking about cooking outside than when the weather starts to warm up and it stays light outside longer.

While grilling can be a great alternative to cooking inside, almost 60% of all grill fires on residential properties occur in the summer. These fires, that can damage property and cause injury and even death, are often preventable.

What You Need to Know

Click on Safety Tips to be directed to the SAFE Kids link.

- [Safety Tips: What you need to know to keep you and your family safe when grilling this summer](#)
- [PLEDGE to keep your family safe around the grill this summer by following a few simple safety tips](#)

SUMMER ITCHINGS.....



Spring and summer are anticipated seasons for young children; when they can go outside to play and explore. How safe is your exploring area for your child?

Test your knowledge by answering the following questions.

How many leaves does a poison ivy plant have?

The poison ivy plant has three leaves; the middle leaf of poison ivy has a shorter stalk than the other two stalks.

What is the chemical in poison ivy that triggers the reaction in a person?
Urushiol

The poison ivy rash has symptoms; can you name at least two symptoms?

Itchy area, swelling of the exposed area, blisters and red bumps that can appear in a row.

Once exposed to poison ivy what should you do to limit the reaction to the chemical urushiol?

Once exposed to the chemical you have ten minutes to clean the exposed area. Use rubbing alcohol to clean the area, then wash/rinse with water and if possible conclude with a shower.

Can you get poison ivy in the winter?

Yes, while the plant may wither in the winter the chemical is not affected and remains active in the winter.

Can you get poison ivy by touching sneakers that were exposed?

Yes, the chemical can be spread to clothes, such as sneakers. Once a person touches the exposed sneaker and then touches their arms, legs etc. the

chemical is spread and the reaction can occur.

Can you get poison ivy by touching another person's ivy rash?

No, if a person has a rash he has been exposed already to the chemical.

Tip:

Be aware of your child's playing or exploring area. If you believe that your child has been exposed to poison ivy, clean the area and educate yourself on the signs of poison ivy. If your child develops a rash or has other symptoms contact your family doctor immediately for medical assistance.

Kathy Olsen has a new position with the Montgomery County Highway Safety of Street Smarts as a Health Educator. Kathy talks to the community about car seats, seatbelts, bike and pedestrian safety, older driver out reach program and highway safety.

Kathy is still a member of the Bucks County Safe Kids Coalition and formerly worked with Bob Johns of Bucks County Highway Safety.

Congratulations to Kathy on her new position!

HOME SAFE HOME

SAFE Kids is pleased to announce the opening of the Home SAFETY Store in Bensalem. SAFE Kids has partnered with St. Mary Children's Health Center, St. Mary Mother Bachman Maternity Center and the Bensalem WIC office to provide vouchers for families to participate in the home SAFETY store. Families are able to meet with an educator to evaluate their home for general safety. Families are provided with a variety of free home safety devices and practice using these devices in the store.

For more information on the Home SAFETY Store please call, St. Mary Parenting Center at:

215-710-5976



SAFE KIDS UPDATES

We are excited to announce that Kim Everett has taken a new professional role. Kim is the new Trauma Prevention Coordinator for our lead agency St. Mary Medical Center. Kim will be reviewing various data sources from both the hospital and other sources to determine the patterns of injury and trauma and how to implement prevention programs within Bucks County. Kim will be serving as the vice-chair for Bucks County SAFE KIDS and will be supporting our chairperson, Kelly Pagliei to continue to identify and develop injury prevention programs for our community. Kim can be reached at keverett@stmaryhealthcare.org or 215-710-2350.

Kelly Pavloski will now be the new Violence and Injury Prevention Project grant coordinator for the Bucks County Department of Health. Kelly is looking forward to maintaining the various injury prevention programs currently offered by the DOH and will continue to be an active member of SAFE KIDS. Kelly can be reached at kapavloski@co.bucks.pa.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS



- July 7th: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check Bucks County Department of Health in Levittown
- July 12th: 10:30-2:00 Home Store St. Mary Parenting Center in Bensalem
- July 14th: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check St. Mary Parenting Center
- July 14th: 10:00-2:00 Home Store
- July 19th: 10:30-2:00 Home Store St. Mary parenting Center Bensalem
- July 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd: 8:30-4:30 CPS Course at Doylestown Police Training Center
- July 22nd: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check Bucks County Department of Health in Doylestown
- July 26th: 10:30-2:00 Home Store St. Mary Parenting Center Bensalem
- July 27th: Bike Helmet Distribution Child Health Center
- July 30th: 10:00-2:00 Car Seat Check Bucks County Department of Health in Quakertown

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

Keep your family and home safe this summer with a few simple steps:

1. Never leave young children or animals unattended in the car
2. Before going to sleep each night make sure your doors, windows and vehicles are locked. Remember to close your garage door
3. Remember fire works are illegal and dangerous
4. Teach children dog safety tips
5. Know where your children are at all times
6. Lock gates around pools
7. Report suspicious persons in your neighborhood



UPCOMING EVENTS

STAYING SAFE IN THE WATER

You *think* that it could never happen to your family, but each year more than 800 children drown. These incidents are not only preventable but predictable.

Here are the five truths about children who drown and what you can do to help keep your children safe around water.

1. Weak or No Supervision
2. No Barriers
3. Weak or No CPR Skills
4. Weak or No Swimming Ability
5. Lack of Life Jacket Use

What You Need to Know

Click on the Safety Tips to be directed to the link.

• [Safety Tips: What you can do to keep your kids safe and injury free.](#)

• [Downloads: Remember to download your Water Watcher Card](#)

August 1st, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th : 10:30-2:00 Home Store St. Mary Parenting Center in Bensalem

August 4th: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check Bucks County Department of Health in Levittown

August 7th : 10:00-12:00 Car Seat Check St. Mary Parenting Center

August 10th: 12:30 SAFE KIDS General Meeting at St. Mary Parenting Center

August 11th: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check St. Mary Child Health Center

August 11th: 10:00-2:00 Home Store

August 19th: 9:30-3:30 Car Seat Check Bucks County Department of Health in Doylestown

August 25th: 3:00-6:00 Car Seat Check St. Mary Parenting Center



As public health officials we are well aware that automobile crashes are the leading cause of death for children and teens. An astonishing 20% of all traffic fatalities are comprised of young pedestrian's age 5-9 years old. Obviously the current measures being taken are not effective as studies show there is little decrease in the annual numbers over the past few years.

It has been shown that children do not display increase in caution when crossing the street even though education in this area starts in elementary school.

With more and more bus routes being suspended throughout the county, it is imperative a program be implemented to ensure our children stay safe when waling to school and on their way back home to their families.

Stop, Look, Cross (stop at the cross walk, look both ways for traffic, cross while still aware of your surroundings) is a program in which teachers and safety educators will physically take students out to cross busy streets, repeatedly, in order to provide the repetition needed to have an impact on the child's featured behavior. This should be a success

compared to the current curriculum involving videos and classroom education where most students are not interested or psychologically incapable to adapt to the new behavior of properly crossing the street.

Once motor skills are automatic, through the repetition of physically crossing streets with the teacher or safety education, mental capacity as well as problem solving skills are increased. Individuals will also become better decision makers and have a heightened situational awareness.

Brian M. Glessner Intern – PA
Highway Safety and the
Department of Health

SUMMER 2010

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