

SUN, FUN AND SAFETY

June 2007

Parenting *Rules!*

Accidents DO happen!



Thousands of children are killed or seriously hurt every year from falling out of windows.

When you open your windows this summer to enjoy the fresh air, follow these safety guidelines to prevent such a tragedy.

- Open windows from the top
- Screens are not strong enough to keep a child from falling out the window
- Install window guards that you can purchase at your local hardware store
- Keep furniture away from windows so kids won't have something to climb on

For more information on window safety contact: The National Safety Council
1211 Spring Lake Dr., Itasca, IL 60143
(630) 285-2128 www.nsc.org

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Splashing into summer....

Water sports, swimming pools and going to the beach are some favorite summer activities for children. However, the Center for Disease Control reports that hundreds of kids are seriously injured or drown each year in home swimming pool accidents.

**Never, never leave your child
unattended in water!**

Swimming pools are the #1 summer danger for preschool aged children. Many of these tragic accidents occur when a parent or caregiver is temporarily distracted. Leaving your child unattended even for a few seconds could lead to tragedy.



The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests following these pool safety tips:

- Never leave your child alone in or near water, even for a moment. Fishponds can also be a serious risk of drowning for young children.
- Install at least a 4 foot fence on all sides of your pool with a locked gate or ladder.
- Empty and put away kiddie pools after each use.
- Keep rescue equipment and a phone by the pool.
- Remember that kids who have learned how to swim should still be closely supervised.

For more info on pool safety contact: [American Academy of Pediatrics](http://www.aap.org)

141 Northwest Point Blvd., Blk Grove Village, IL 60007

847-434-4000

www.aap.org

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Lawnmower injuries

Each year thousands of people are injured by lawnmowers, many of them under the age of 18.



The Shriners Hospital reports treating dozens of children each summer with serious debilitating injuries cause by lawnmowers and other landscaping equipment.

As part of their efforts to prevent lawnmower injuries, they suggest the following safety tips:

- ☑ Never allow young children to mow the lawn.
- ☑ Never allow children to ride as passengers on the lawnmower.
- ☑ Always clear the yard of rocks, sticks and other debris before mowing.
- ☑ Never allow children near the mower when it is in operation.
- ☑ Be sure children wear shoes when they are outside.

To order a free lawnmower safety brochure call: The Shreveport Shriners Hospital
318-226-4204
or go to: www.shrinershq.org

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Little wanderers

Most children love to play outdoors in the summer. Bike riding, splashing in the water, and playing in the sandbox are some favorite activities for children. Each year young children wander away from their homes when the temptation of summer fun and friends calls to them. Unfortunately some of these children are seriously injured, killed or never found.



**Keep
doors
and
windows
locked at
all times**

Protect your children this summer by:

- Keeping doors leading outside locked at all times. Do not depend on door handle locks, as many children can operate these. Install a slider lock or dead bolt high enough so your child cannot reach it.
- Looking around your home for possible ways your child could get outdoors. For instance, pet doors are an easy way for young children to get outside.
- Remembering that locks are not a substitute for careful supervision.

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Resources to help you have a fun, healthy and safe summer

Rhode Island Beach Water Quality

Check water safety before heading out to the beach.

Bathing Beaches Monitoring Program
3 Capitol Hill, Rm. 203
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 222-2749 www.ribeaches.org

Air Quality Report

If your kids have asthma or allergies, check the ozone report before going outdoors.

Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade St., Rm. 230
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 222-2808 www.dem.ri.gov

Safe Boating Campaign

Be a smart boater and always follow safety guidelines, don't take chances!

National Safe Boating Council
PO Box 509
Brostow, VA 20136
(703) 361-4294 www.safeboatingcouncil.org

About Parenting Rules! E-news



Prevent Child Abuse
Rhode Island
500 Prospect St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860
ph. 401.728.7920 fax. 401.724.5850
www.preventchildabuse-ri.org



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