



SUMMERTIME SAFETY

Other resources

www.safekids.org
www.aap.org (search for summer tips)
www.legacyhealth.org



Oregon
Burn Center



3001 N. Gantenbein Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97227

503-413-4232

Toll free **1-888-598-4232**

Oregon
Burn Center



*The only one in Oregon.
Only at Emanuel.*

Legacy Health System, a nonprofit organization, includes Emanuel Hospital & Health Center, Emanuel Children's Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center, Meridian Park Hospital, Mount Hood Medical Center, Salmon Creek Hospital, Legacy Clinics and CareMark/Managed HealthCare Northwest PPO. ©2006 Printed on recycled paper.

SUMMERTIME SAFETY

Every year, thousands of people across the United States suffer burn injuries during the summer season. While some of these injuries are minor, many can require an extensive stay in the hospital.

Those at the greatest risk are the young and elderly who are less able to move away from a fire that gets out of control. It is important to remember that when around fire, anyone can receive a burn injury at any time. At the Oregon Burn Center, we know that almost every burn injury is preventable.

Prevention

Check this list for some ways to be careful while having fun this summer.

Safety Zones — One of the easiest ways to keep your children safe this summer is to maintain a five foot safety zone around all campfires, outdoor grills, backyard burn areas, and fireworks sites. Remind your children that the area inside the safety zone is for adults only. Supervise children at all times.

Campfires — Never use gasoline to start or maintain a campfire. This is the most common way people of all ages receive burns. Gasoline vapors ignite even at very cold temperatures. Since gasoline fumes are invisible, it is impossible to determine when and where an explosion will occur.

Children often receive burns when they play around a campfire. Remember that even after a fire is out the ashes can remain hot for 24 hours or longer. Maintain your safety zone and keep children from playing in this area even after the fire is out.

Fireworks — Some very serious injuries and significant property loss are common around the Fourth of July. Follow all laws regarding safe use of fireworks. Use common sense and supervise children at all times. The Oregon Burn Center recommends attending a professional fireworks display instead of using fireworks at home.

The most common fireworks injury in children occurs when playing with sparklers. The tips of sparklers can reach temperatures of 1000 degrees or more. Keep all fireworks, including sparklers, away from children under the age of 5.

Playing with fireworks in an unsafe manner is not worth your child's fingers, hearing or eyesight.

Barbeques, outdoor grills and other cooking appliances — with all hot cooking appliances, remember to:

- maintain your safety zone
- follow manufactures' safety directions for each appliance
- be especially careful with deep fat turkey fryers
- never use gasoline to start or maintain an outdoor cooking fire
- never leave an outdoor grill or cooking appliance unattended while in use

Finally, remember that alcohol and fire do not mix. Alcohol impairs judgment, which often leads to preventable burn injuries. Please do not drink while around campfires, fireworks, or outdoor cooking appliances.

