

CONSUMER PROTECTION



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News

June 2002 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In May, 2002, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued **six (6) recalls** and **two (2) safety advisories relating to products affecting children**. Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past month.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128** and then press **"zero" (0) to speak with Product Safety**. You should leave your name, your organization's name and a phone number.

Following is a listing of the 8 "KIDS" recalls and safety advisories by title and identification number:

- ❖ Prestige Toy Corp is recalling Duckie Ring Rattle/Teethers. #02-154
- ❖ Dorel Juvenile Group, Inc. is recalling Infant Car Seats/Carriers for Repair. #02-164
- ❖ Rose Art Industries is recalling Cotton Candy Machines for Repair. #02-165
- ❖ Aqua Leisure Industries Inc. Remind Consumers Inflatable Baby Floats Recall. #02-166
- ❖ Kolcraft is recalling Toy Steering Wheels sold on Strollers. #02-167
- ❖ Spin Master Toys is recalling Firestormer and Skyblazer Toy Planes. #02-170
- ❖ JPMA launches campaign about the Hidden Hazards of Placing Babies in Adult Beds. #02-153
- ❖ Pools are Not the Only Drowning Danger for Kids a Home. #02-169

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

"KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

Release Number: 02-154 Prestige Toy Corp., of New York, N.Y., is voluntarily recalling about 4,600 Duckie Ring rattle/teethers. The Duckie Ring has a clear plastic tube with multi-colored balls inside that make a rattling sound. The rattle is attached to a yellow duck with an orange beak by a blue and yellow striped teether. The brand name "PRESTIGE™" is embossed on the teether. The combination rattle/teethers have model numbers 4576, 44576, and 84576, which can be found on the sewn-on label. Retailers nationwide, including the Fred Meyer Co., The Carters Outlet Stores, Proffits and E.A.T. Gifts, sold the rattles from March 2002 through April 2002 for about \$7.

Problem: The rattle may break, causing small beads to fall out, which presents a potential choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should immediately take the rattles away from children and return them to the company to receive a replacement toy or refund. Consumer should send the rattle to Prestige Toy Corp., 131 West 33rd Street, Room 606, New York, N.Y. Prestige will reimburse consumers for the cost of postage. For more information, consumers can contact Prestige toll-free at (888) 268-8999 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02154.html>

Release Number: 02-164 Dorel Juvenile Group Inc., of Columbus, Ind., is voluntarily recalling about 26,000 Safety 1st and Beatrix Potter "Designer 22" infant car seats/carriers. The recalled car seats/carriers were sold under the Safety 1st and Beatrix Potter "Designer 22" brand names and were manufactured by Dorel Juvenile Group in the U.S. The seats were manufactured between January 3, 2002 and

February 13, 2002. Only model numbers and color codes 02-621-SAL, 02-620-AZY and 02-620-BEA are included in this recall. The model number and manufacture date are located on the instruction and warning label on the side of the car seat/carrier. Mass merchandise and department stores nationwide sold the "Designer 22" infant car seats/carriers from January 2002 through April 2002 for between \$40 and \$70. None of the car seats/carriers was sold in Canada.

Problem: When the seat is used as a carrier, the plastic handle can unexpectedly release from the carrying position. When this happens, an unrestrained infant can fall to the ground and suffer injuries.

What to do: Consumers can continue to use the "Designer 22" as a car seat but should stop using it as a carrier immediately and contact Dorel Juvenile Group to receive a repair kit. Consumers can contact Dorel at the firm's web site at www.djgusa.com, fax (800) 207-8182 or call (800) 536-1090 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Thursday and between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET on Friday. Consumers with questions about this recall campaign can call the CPSC Hotline at (800) 638-2772. Consumers also can call NHTSA's toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at (888) DASH-2-DOT/(888) 327-4236 (recall number 02E-027) or (202) 366-0123 for more information.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02164.html>

Release Number: 02-165 Rose Art Industries Inc., of Livingston, N.J. is voluntarily

recalling about 188,000 cotton candy machines. The recalled cotton candy machines have either a blue or a purple base and a clear plastic cover. The words "The Real Cotton Candy Machine" are printed in a rainbow of colors on the base of the machine and on the packaging. The product is marketed for children ages 10 and up. The cotton candy machines were made in China. Toy and discount stores sold these cotton candy machines nationwide from September 2001 through April 2002 for about \$27.

Problem: The motors on the cotton candy machines can jam and overheat, posing a fire hazard. Additionally, the heating unit can be activated without the spinner in place, presenting a risk of burn to consumers.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these cotton candy machines immediately and contact Rose Art at (888) 262-4474 anytime for a free replacement motor unit, and free samples of flavored sugar to make cotton candy. For more information, consumers can visit the firm's web site at www.roseart.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02165.html>

Release Number: 02-166 Aqua-Leisure Industries Inc., of Avon, Mass., reminds consumers of a voluntary recall of about 90,000 "SunSmart" baby floats announced in November 2001. The recalled floats are packaged as "SunSmart" Baby Adjustable Sunshade Boats. The baby floats are blue and white circular tubes with a seat in the middle, and a detachable protective sunshade. The vinyl floats, intended for ages 6 months to 18 months, have pictures of purple crabs and various colored fish along the top. The word, "SunSmart" is printed across the front of the float. The recalled boats can be identified by the lettering "C/S" molded on the valve. Only floats with the "C/S" lettering are involved in the recall, subsequent floats have

been corrected. Juvenile products, specialty and discount department stores nationwide, including Target, K-Mart, Bed Bath and Beyond and Baby Central, sold the baby floats from August 2000 through September 2001 for between \$10 and \$13. Baby floats purchased after September 2001 are not involved in this recall.

Problem: The leg holes in the seat of the float can tear, causing children to unexpectedly fall into the water and possibly drown.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these recalled floats immediately and contact Aqua-Leisure for a free replacement. Consumers can contact Aqua-Leisure at (866) 807-3998 between 9 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's web site at www.aqualeisure.com.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02166.html>

Release Number: 02-167 Kolcraft Enterprises, Inc., of Chicago, Ill. is voluntarily recalling about 17,000 toy steering wheel attachments sold on strollers. The toy steering wheel was sold on Kolcraft's Jeep® Cherokee stroller model number 55120. The model number and "MADE IN CHINA" can be found on a sticker located on one of the rear legs of the stroller. "Jeep" is written with yellow, raised lettering on the front of the steering wheel base. These toys and strollers were manufactured from January 2001 through February 2001. The manufacture date is listed below the model number on the rear leg sticker. Strollers manufactured after February 2001, with toy steering wheels, are not included in this recall. Mass merchandise and juvenile products stores nationwide sold these strollers from January 2001 through May 2002 for between \$80 and \$90.

Problem: The steering wheel can break away from its base, allowing the small plastic turn signal and horn pieces to come off, posing a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should remove the toy steering wheel on these strollers and contact Kolcraft to receive a free replacement toy steering wheel. Contact Kolcraft at (800) 453-7673 between 8 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. ET Monday through Thursday and between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. ET on Friday. For additional information, consumers can also visit the firm's web site at www.kolcraft.com.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02167.html>

Release Number: 02-170 Spin Master Toys, of Toronto, Ontario is voluntarily recalling about 137,000 Firestormer and Skyblazer toy planes. The recalled Firestormer plane is either red or blue in color with a flame graphic across the body and "Firestormer" printed on the wings of the plane. The Skyblazer plane is purple, green and white in color and has "Skyblazer" printed on the wings of the plane. These toys use a hand pump mechanism to compress air to make the plane fly. Both planes are recommended for children 8 years old and over. The planes have an 8-digit date code on the bottom of the pump. The date code reads MM/DD/YY-KS. Only planes with date codes 12/29/01-KS through 03/24/02-KS are included in the recall. "Made In China" is written on the bottom of the pump below the date code. Planes manufactured before December 29, 2001 and after March 24, 2002 are not included in this recall. Hobby shops and department stores nationwide, including Wal-Mart, Toys R Us, Target and K-mart sold these planes between January 2002 and May 20, 2002 for about \$20.

Problem: The plastic air intake chamber of

the air-powered toy planes can burst, throwing plastic pieces, posing a laceration, bruise and abrasion hazard to consumers.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the planes immediately and contact Spin Master Toys at (800) 622-8339 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday to receive a free replacement plane. Consumers also can visit the firm's web site at www.spinmaster.com.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02170.html>

Release Number: 02-153 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) launched a national safety campaign aimed at reducing deaths associated with placing babies in adult beds. CPSC data shows that from 1999 through 2001 at least 180 children under the age of two died after being placed in adult beds.

The national safety campaign encourages safe sleeping practices for babies. The campaign will be targeted to reach new and expectant parents, day care providers, hospitals and health departments.

The CPSC data shows that babies placed in adult beds are at risk of dying from several hidden hazards including:

- Entrapment between the bed and wall, or between the bed and another object.
- Entrapment involving headboards, footboards or bed frames.
- Soft bedding-related hazards (such as suffocation on a pillow).
- Falls (sometimes into a pile of clothing or plastic, resulting in suffocation).
- Overlaying of the baby by another child or adult in the bed.

The CPSC recommends the following safety tips to ensure that babies under 24 months sleep safely:

- Don't place a baby to sleep in an adult bed. Hidden hazard: The baby could become entrapped between the bed & wall, or in headboards, footboards, bedframes. Babies could also fall or suffocate in soft bedding.

- Place babies to sleep on their backs in a crib that meets current safety standards and has a firm, tight-fitting mattress. If you use a portable crib or playpen, make sure it meets current safety standards. Use only the mattress or pad provided by the manufacturer.
- Babies should be placed to sleep on their backs, not their stomachs. Hidden hazard: According to the Back to Sleep Campaign, "Babies sleeping on their stomachs seem to be more likely to succumb to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)."
- Don't place a baby to sleep on soft bedding. Hidden Hazard: The baby could suffocate. Do not use soft bedding such as pillows and thick quilts and comforters for infants under 12 months old.

For additional safety information on safe sleeping practices for babies, contact the CPSC at (800) 638-2772 or write to CPSC, Washington, DC 20207 or visit our web site at www.cpsc.gov.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml/02153.html>

Release Number: 02-169 CPSC Warns: Pools Are Not the Only Drowning Danger at Home for Kids - Data Show Other Hazards Cause More than 100 Residential Child Drowning Deaths Annually.

Young children are irresistibly drawn to water, and tragically, about 350 children under age 5 drown in swimming pools each year. But even if you don't have a pool, your young children may not be safe from drowning. CPSC has data showing that about one-third as many children (an average of about 115 annually) drown from other hazards around the home as do in pools. CPSC has received reports of 459 young children who drowned in bathtubs, buckets, toilets, spas, hot tubs and other containers of water in a 4-year period between 1996 and 1999.

Bathtubs: Children drowning in bathtubs account for about two-thirds of the 459 reported drowning deaths in the home. The majority of these bathtub deaths occur when the caregiver is not present. In the time it takes to step out of the room to get a towel or answer the phone, a young child can drown. In at least 29 of the 292 bathtub drowning deaths reported to CPSC

between 1996 and 1999, the victims were using bath seats.

Buckets: Many parents and caregivers may not realize the danger buckets pose. From 1996 through 1999, CPSC received reports of 58 children under age 5 who drowned in 5-gallon buckets. Even a small amount of liquid can be deadly. Of all buckets, the 5-gallon size presents the greatest hazard to young children because of its tall, straight sides. That, combined with the stability of these buckets, makes it nearly impossible for top-heavy infants and toddlers to free themselves when they fall into the bucket headfirst.

Toilets: Toilets can be overlooked as a drowning hazard in the home. The typical scenario involves a child under 3-years-old falling headfirst into the toilet. CPSC has received reports of 16 children under age 5 who drowned in toilets between 1996 and 1999.

Spas & Hot Tubs: Spas and hot tubs, typically located near or sometimes inside the home, pose another hazard to young children. CPSC is aware of 55 children under age 5 who drowned in spas and hot tubs between 1996 and 1999.

Other Products: Though not as frequently involved in deaths, other products around the home containing water can be drowning hazards. The most common of these are buckets with a capacity different than the 5-gallon size. Additional drowning deaths have also involved landscape ponds, sinks, and fish tanks, among other products.

CPSC offers these tips to help prevent young children from drowning:

Bathtubs:

- Never leave a baby alone in a bathtub for even a second.
- Always keep the baby in arm's reach.
- Don't leave a baby in the care of another young child.
- Never leave to answer the phone, answer the door, to get a towel or for any other reason. If you must leave, take the baby with you.
- A baby bath seat is not a substitute for supervision. A bath seat is a bathing aid, not a safety device. Babies have slipped or climbed out of bath seats and drowned.
- Never use a baby bath seat in a non-skid, slip-resistant bathtub because the suction

cups will not adhere to the bathtub surface or can detach unexpectedly.

Buckets:

- Never leave a bucket containing even a small amount of liquid unattended.
- When finished using a bucket, always empty it immediately.
- Store buckets where young children cannot reach them. Buckets, accessible to children, that are left outside to collect rainwater are a hazard.

Spas & Hot Tubs:

- Always secure safety covers and barriers to prevent children from gaining access to spas or hot tubs when not in use. Some non-rigid covers, such as solar covers, can allow a small child to slip in the water and the cover would appear to still be in place.

Toilets:

- Keep the toilet lid down to prevent access to the water and consider using a toilet clip to stop young children from opening the lids.
- Consider placing a latch on the bathroom door out of reach of young children.

Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) - it can be a lifesaver when seconds count.

Swimming Pools

Consumers with residential pools need to be aware of all the safety tips regarding in-home hazards, and also be aware of how to protect young children from the dangers a pool poses.

The key to preventing a swimming pool tragedy is to have layers of protection. This includes placing barriers around your pool to prevent access, using door and pool alarms, closely supervising your child and being prepared in case of an emergency.

CPSC offers these tips to prevent pool drowning:

- Fences and walls should be at least 4 feet high and installed completely around the pool.
- Fence gates should open outward from the pool and should be self-closing and self-latching. The latch should be out of a small child's reach.
- If your house forms one side of the barrier to the pool, then doors leading from the house to the pool should be protected with alarms that produce a sound when a door is unexpectedly opened.

- A power safety cover -- a motor-powered barrier that can be placed over the water area -- can be used when the pool is not in use.
- Keep rescue equipment by the pool and be sure a phone is poolside with emergency numbers posted.
- For above-ground pools, steps and ladders to the pool should be secured and locked, or removed when the pool is not in use.
- If a child is missing, always look in the pool first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Pool alarms can be used as an added precaution.

CPSC offers free publications consumers can use to help prevent child drowning: "Safety Barrier Guidelines for Pools," "How to Plan for the Unexpected," "Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer," and "Prevent Child In-Home Drowning Deaths." Copies of these publications can be obtained on CPSC's website, or by writing to "Prevent Drowning," CPSC, Washington, D.C., 20207.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml02/02169.html>

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at <http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us. Please be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:
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