

STAY FIRE SMART! DON'T GET BURNED.
IT'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 4—10, 2009

Superhero Sparky reminds the unsuspecting citizens that burns are a leading cause of injury and are very preventable. Join Sparky's team of superheroes and prevent burns in your town today!

The University Hospital's Burn Center at the University of Utah is concerned with the high number of people receiving scalds from tap water and children who are burned while using fire tools. From 2005 through 2007 over 9,000 people were seen in a Utah emergency room for burns, that's about one person every three hours. More inside!

For more Fire Prevention Week Planning, visit www.firepreventionweek.org and www.sparky.org and www.nfpa.org



UTAH FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION MEETING

JUNE 18, 2009
1:30 P.M.

State Fire Marshal's Office Conference Room
5272 S College Dr, Suite 302, Murray

(Exit I-15 at 5300 S heading west and turn north on 500 W/College Dr. – one block west from I-15. The building is on the west side of the road. Enter through the southern doors.)

On the agenda: future meeting schedule, training opportunities, home fire sprinkler education and partnerships, potential statewide distribution of a new preschool curriculum, Fire Prevention Week, and changes to NFPA 72 (specifically smoke alarm signal requirements).

First arriving attendees will receive a home fire sprinkler demo kit with support materials and several disks of curriculum and programs.

TAP WATER SCALDS

Hot tap water scalds serious enough to need a visit to an emergency department are a major cause of burn injuries in Utah. These are not burns from water boiling on the stove but rather water coming directly from the tap.

When skin is new and when it is aging it is thinner than during other times in our lives. An increase of emergency department visits for burns to this skin are therefore expected. While young children in Utah are at high risk of burns from hot tap water, few older adults are visiting the emergency department due to tap water. Unknown is if older adults are treated elsewhere or if they are not being burned.

UTAH STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Surprising, however, is the number of adults burned each year by scalding tap water. First glance at burn injuries in Utah show that tap water scalds is just as much an issue for adults as for children.

Hot tap water only injury emergency department encounters 2005 - 2007

											Age Adjustment Age Groups	
< 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85+ years	Total	
27	90	68	68	88	56	41	25	14	6	**	483	

**The count or rate in certain cells of the table has been suppressed because the observed number of events is very small and not appropriate for publication.

BURN AND SCALD INJURY EDUCATION

The Home Safety Council has a new brochure in English and Spanish about burn and scald prevention. The language is simple and the information is comprehensive. www.homesafetycouncil.org

A new preschool program focused on burn prevention, Safety Steps, will be out and available to the Home Safety Council's Expert Network by the end of August. Utah is on the list for consideration of state-wide distribution.

The child portion of the program is effective and fun but it doesn't stop there. Caregivers are encouraged to attend a short training where they first watch their children sing a song about burn prevention and then learn how to prevent burns and scalds. This format is ideal for a Head Start program with regular caregiver meetings but is appropriate for any preschool.

JFS PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE

MatchBook Journal Website is a vehicle and community for the prevention and treatment of juvenile firesetting. This online journal is for all members of a coalition including juvenile justice representatives and behavioral health specialists and is designed to be a place for recognized professionals to discuss current studies and best practices. Sign up for a free subscription. www.MatchBookJournal.org

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JFSIP CLASS

AJuvenile Firesetter Intervention Program training is in the works so keep watching for training!

FIRE SAFETY TAKE HOME CD

The FireFacts.org Interactive Learning System, an interactive fire safety learning CD for older elementary children, can be presented to every student by your local Farmers insurance agent after your school fire safety presentation. The CD is intended to reinforce your education and teach the rest of the family about fire safety. The website, www.firefacts.org, offers information for parents and teachers. Free.

HOME FIRE SPRINKLER SAFETY CAMPAIGN

The recent NFPA safety campaign is about home fire sprinklers. The CD is full of great resources to help you spread the work about home fire sprinklers in your community. Some CDs have a request to complete a survey. Please complete the survey.



Did you get your CD with Sparky and contractor on the cover? Do you have a partner who could use one? Do you want a second one? Contact your state's NFPA Education Network representative to have one mailed to you. Or, go online at [Home Fire Sprinkler Safety Campaign](#).

NFPA REMEMBERING WHEN TRAINING

NFPA is offering an excellent opportunity to attend training for older adult fire and fall prevention. This training will be November 15-17, 2009 and applications are due August 3, 2009. They will fund a two person team; one from a fire department and one from an agency serving older adults.

Teams will be required to do five group presentations, two train-the-trainer sessions for home visitor agencies and 25 home visits. If you are interested in attending this conference, have questions and/or do not know how to locate a partnering agency, contact Ashley Nicholes, Fire Corps VISTA at anicholes@utah.gov or (801)284-6366.