## TACOMA FIRE DEPARTMENT

## **Information Bulletin**



## **Burn Prevention**

Burns can result from contact with heat, chemicals, electricity, or radiation. They can damage not only the skin, but also other organs. They are most common in young children.

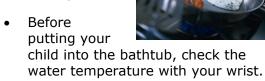
## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Here are some tips and reminders that will protect you and your children from burns:

- Don't hold a baby when you are cooking or drinking anything hot. The baby may grab for it and get burned if it spills.
- Keep coffee pots, irons, hot foods, and boiling water away from the edge of the table or stove.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of

the stove so children can't reach them.

 Never open the oven door with a child nearby.



- Don't let children touch the faucet handles in the bathtub. They may turn on the hot water and get burned.
  Never leave a baby or young child alone in a tub.
- Lower your hot water heater setting to low or medium (120 degrees F).
- Use a cool mist humidifier instead of a steam vaporizer.

- Put fireplace screens or guards around fireplaces, furnaces, or radiators. Keep space heaters out of your child's reach. Don't leave a child alone around fires of any kind.
- Make sure your child's pajamas are flame-resistant.
- If you smoke, don't leave lit cigarettes unattended. Dispose of them properly. Keep cigarette lighters and matches in a safe place where children can't reach them.
- Install smoke alarms. Check them on a regular basis to make sure they are still working. Teach your children the best way to get out of the house in a fire.
- Lock up liquids that may catch on fire, such as gasoline or kerosene. Leave them in the container that they came in and label them.
- Before putting a child in a car seat, check the temperature of the seat, especially any metal parts. Cover the car seat with a towel when you park in the sun.
- To prevent sunburn, always apply sunscreen, to children before going out in the sun.
- Keep children away from electrical cords. Replace frayed cords. Cover unused electrical outlets with childproof covers (available in hardware stores and baby departments).
- Test the temperature of infant food before feeding it to a baby.