



NATIONAL
SCALD
PREVENTION
CAMPAIGN



N A T I O N A L

SCALD
Prevention

TIPS AND INFORMATION



“I never thought tap water could get that hot!”

“Got a kid, get a lid – Use a Travel Mug”

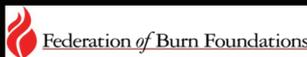
“I only turned my back for a second”

Five national organizations — the International Association of Fire Fighters Foundation — Burn Fund, the American Burn Association Burn Prevention Committee, the Federation of Burn Foundations, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the Home Safety Council (now merged with Safe Kids Worldwide) have joined forces to create the National Scald Prevention Campaign. This Campaign is an innovative national program designed expressly to help fire and life safety educators, burn clinicians, and injury prevention professionals reach all adults with life-saving information they need to prevent scalds in and around their homes. For more information visit www.iafffoundation.org.

Funded by an AFG FP&S grant to the International Association of Fire Fighters Burn Foundation from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the scald prevention materials were developed to provide free and accurate tools for educators to use in their communities.

“It won’t happen in my house”

“Test the water” “No-kids zone”



What is a Scald Injury?

As defined by the National Scald Prevention Steering Committee “A scald injury occurs when contact with hot liquid or steam damages one or more layers of skin. It usually is caused by a spill of hot food or beverages, or by hot tap water in a bath or shower.”

Scald burns from hot tap water as well as food and beverages heated on the stove, in the microwave and in other appliances are painful and potentially life-threatening.

Although young children and older adults are at greatest risk due to their thinner skin, anyone can suffer from scald burn injuries.



Prevent Scald Burns in the Bathroom



- How hot is the water coming out of your tap? Use a thermometer.



- Set your water heater at 120°F/48°C or just below the medium setting.



- Fill the tub. Run your hand through the water to test for hot spots. Then help the children get in.



- When children are in or near the tub, watch them closely. Young children and older people have thin skin. They burn more quickly.



- Install special tub spouts and shower heads that prevent hot water burns. These sense if the water gets hot enough to cause a burn and shut off the flow of water.

Prevent Scald Burns in the Kitchen



- Wear long oven mitts to protect your skin when cooking or handling hot food.

- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so children cannot pull them down. Use back burners when cooking.



- Food cooked in the microwave can get very hot and cause a burn. Use oven mitts when you take off the lid; stir and test food before serving to make sure it is cool enough to eat.



- Keep children away from the stove when you are cooking. Put tape on the floor to help children learn to stay out of the “no-kid-zone.”

Prevent Scald Burns from Hot Drinks



- Keep hot drinks away from the edge of tables and counters. Do not use tablecloths or placemats because young children can pull them down.



- Use a “travel mug” with a tight-fitting lid for all hot drinks. This can help prevent a burn if the cup tips over.



- Do not hold or carry a child while you have a hot drink in your hand.

If You Burn Your Skin

1. Cool it with running water. Do this right away.
2. Keep the burned area in cool water for 3 minutes or longer. Do not put ice, butter or lotion on the burn. This could make it worse.
3. Call your doctor or 911 if the burn looks bad.



Scalds are Preventable!

40% of all scald injuries are suffered by children aged 0-4, and those scalds represent two-thirds of the burn injuries suffered by young children



High Risk Groups are:

- Age 0 – 4 years
- Older Adults

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends 120°F/48°C as a maximum setting for residential water heaters



International Association of Fire Fighters' Charitable Foundation

“Helping Heal Bodies, Hearts & Souls”

About the IAFF Charitable Foundation

The IAFF Charitable Foundation’s mission is to support IAFF members and their families in their time of need, promote fire and burn prevention, advocate for fire fighter health and safety and provide public education on how to prevent and recover from traumatic events.

About the IAFF Charitable Foundation — Burn Fund

The IAFF Charitable Foundation — Burn Fund, established by the IAFF, is dedicated to fire prevention and burn awareness education, advocacy, burn research and improving the quality of life for burn survivors. Created in 1982, the Burn Fund is one of the largest sources for burn research grants and the sponsor of the annual IAFF Charitable Foundation’s International Burn Camp, held each fall in Washington, DC.