



SAFE COMMUNITY COALITION

Burn Safety

Burn safety

- Be sure there is a guard on a fireplace or portable heater.
- Set the hot water heater to 120 degrees or less.
- While cooking, be sure to use back burners and turn pot handles to the back of the stove.
- Never let children remove hot foods or liquids from a microwave oven.
- Be careful when heating baby bottles or baby food in the microwave. Microwaves can heat liquids unevenly resulting in “hot spots” that can burn the mouth and throat.
- Remember steam can scald. Remove lids from pots slowly.
- Place hot foods and liquids away from the edges of counters and tables.



Burn treatment

- For any serious burn, do not hesitate to call 911. Remember, water and contact with any hot object can cause a burn.
- Cool a burn! The best thing to do for any burn is to cool it using cool water. Never place butter or other substances on it. The burning process must be stopped quickly.
- Keep burns as clean as possible. Remove jewelry as soon as practical as well. Swelling could later prompt the destruction of jewelry to remove rings, bracelets, etc.
- Never remove clothing from a person who has suffered a serious burn. Cool the burn with the clothing as much in tact as possible.
- After the burn has been cooled, keep the person warm. Many burn patients experience hypothermia after receiving a serious burn.

Written by: Madison Fire Department, UW Hospital Burn Center, St. Marys Hospital Medical Center

