



## Did you know?

- A scald injury occurs when hot liquid or steam damages one or more layers of skin
- 400,000 burn injuries are treated in the United States each year
- Approximately 1/3 of hospitalized burns are a result of scald injuries
- 75% of burns to young children are scalds
- 40% of scald injuries are among children ages 0-4
- Most scalds occur in the kitchen

—American Burn Association 2010

## Iowa Chosen as a Pilot Site for Scald Prevention Campaign

Multiple organizations have teamed up in an effort to prevent scald burn injuries here in the United States. Cooperative efforts have been supported by:

- International Association of Fire Fighters Foundation
- American Burn Association
- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- Safe Kids USA
- Federation of Burn Foundations

A unified curriculum was developed through this collaborative effort, and six pilot sites were selected from around the nation.

We are proud to announce that Iowa has been a national pilot site since 2012, and is being facilitated by a partnership of burn professionals from the Cedar Rapids Fire Department and the University of Iowa Burn Treatment Center with support from the St. Florian Fire and Burn foundation.

The chief goal of the National Scald Prevention Campaign is to prevent scald burn injuries by increasing awareness of risks and prevention measures, primarily through fire/burn professionals and people who interact frequently with high-risk populations (children and the elderly).

There are many ways to participate in the campaign and we would love to have you on board with us! You can:

- Discuss scald prevention while you are doing your burn prevention education/outreach
- Practice scald safety in your home
- Spread the word while visiting with family and friends
- Visit [stflorianfireandburnfoundation.com](http://stflorianfireandburnfoundation.com) to access online prevention materials and information
- Contact us for additional information and materials

## Here are some common sources of scald injuries:

- Cooking while holding children
- Cooking with children nearby
- Drinking hot beverages/soup while near or holding a child
- Removing hot food/liquids from the microwave
- Hot beverages unattended and in open containers
- Siblings spilling or leaving hot substances unattended
- Bathing water is too hot (water heater set >120 degrees Fahrenheit, not checking temperature before placing child in water)
- Children physically able to access/turn on hot water in sink or tub

## Scald Prevention

### In the kitchen:

- Turn pot handles towards back of stove
- Keep appliance cords out of reach/away from children
- Create a “kid-free zone” by taping off the area in front of the stove
- Use spill-proof travel mugs for hot beverage and keep out of children’s reach
- Don’t allow kids to remove food from the microwave

### In the bathroom:

- Always check the temperature of bath water before bathing
- Consider installing a scald prevention device on tub faucet
- Supervise young children who have access to hot water

### In the home:

- Turn water heater to 120 degrees or less



Scald burns have demarcated lines indicating where the hot substance touched the skin. This is an example of a typical scald injury where a toddler attempted to drink a hot beverage they could reach on a table. This is a second degree burn and requires medical intervention.

**Scald burns can happen  
in one second or less!**

**Follow us on Twitter!  
@scaldprevent\_ia**

For more information please contact us:



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