



OSWEGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



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Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Scald Burns Hot Liquids Burn Like Fire

(Oswego, IL) The Oswego Fire Protection District is urging the public to be cautious when handling hot liquids. According to The American Burn Association, approximately every minute someone in the United States sustains a burn injury serious enough to require treatment. Scald burns are the second leading cause of all burn injuries, and children, older adults and people with disabilities are especially at risk.

Young children and seniors have thinner skin than older children and adults. As a result, their skin burns more deeply and at lower temperatures. According to the Burn Foundation, more than 500,000 scald burns happen in the United States each year. Children under the age of 5 and elders over the age of 65 are at the most risk for these burns.

Most scald burns occur in the home and scald burns are typically related to ordinary activities – cooking, eating, and bathing. However, burns often happen to children due to a lapse in adult supervision or lack of protective measures.

Here are a few safety tips. Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried. Never hold a child while you are cooking, drinking a hot liquid, or carrying hot foods or liquids. Place hot liquids and food in the center of a table or toward the back of a counter. Allow microwaved food to cool before eating and open it slowly, away from the face. Lower the temperature settings on water heaters to 120°F or less.

If you do get burned, treat it right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3-5 minutes and then cover it with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed.

The Oswego Fire Protection District was formed by voter referendum in March of 1936, covers over 60 square miles in the northeast portion of Kendall County and about 1.5 square miles of northwest unincorporated Will County.

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