

# THE HAZARD REMIEDIATOR



## VOLUME XXI SEPTEMBER 2015

### Office of Safety and Risk Management

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## GET A FLU SHOT!

All people 6 months and older are recommended to receive an influenza vaccination each year. Children aged 6 months through 8 years of age who have never received a seasonal flu vaccine need to get two doses of vaccine spaced at least 4 weeks apart. This season, other children in this age group may need two doses as well.

Certain people are at “high risk” of serious complications from seasonal influenza. These include people 65 years and older, children younger than five years old, pregnant women, and people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions.

The best time to get vaccinated is as soon as the vaccine is available. You can still get a flu shot or the flu spray vaccine through the fall, winter or spring, since flu season usually peaks in February but continues through May. Individuals who lack health insurance should contact their county health department to inquire about flu vaccine clinics.

*\* Information courtesy of the New York State Department of Health*

## Flu Vaccination Myths and Facts

**MYTH: Healthy people do not need to get the flu vaccine.**

**FACT:** Anyone can get sick from the flu, but adults 65 and older, kids under 2 and people with chronic conditions are more likely to have more serious problems. Healthy people can easily pass the flu to others, so get your flu shot.

**MYTH: Flu shots can give people the flu.**

**FACT:** The flu shot is made from dead viruses, so you can't get the flu from the vaccination. But, you may experience side effects including a sore arm, sore throats or achiness. These usually go away within one or two days.

**MYTH: The seasonal flu isn't serious.**

**FACT:** The season flu can be very serious. In 2006, the flu was the 8th leading cause of death in the United States.

Symptoms include: high fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches and stomach issues such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Protect yourself and those around you by getting your flu shot.

**MYTH: Needles can hurt, so it's easier not to get the vaccine.**

**FACT:** You may feel a sharp prick when you get the vaccine, but it's brief. If you are worried, a nasal flu spray is available. The spray is made from weakened live influenza viruses, but cannot cause the flu. It is approved for healthy people ages 2-49, but not for pregnant women.

**MYTH: It's ok to come to work when you're feeling sick with flu-like symptoms.**

**FACT:** To protect your co-workers, it's important to stay home if you don't feel well or you are unsure if you're contagious.

**MYTH: Flu shots can give people the flu.**

**FACT:** The flu strain changes every year and every year the flu vaccine protects against new viruses that are circulating.

Get your flu vaccine every year to protect yourself from the current strains.



*\* Information courtesy of the National Safety Council*

# Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers in School



Our office has fielded recent inquiries about the safety of hand sanitizers in schools. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer dispensers are addressed in *§3405.5 of the Fire Code of New York State* due to the flammability of the contents.

Please keep these Fire Code requirements in mind as you consider the installation of wall-mounted dispensers:

- The maximum capacity of each dispenser shall be 68 ounces.
- The minimum separation between dispensers shall be 48 inches.
- The dispensers shall not be installed directly adjacent to, directly above or below an electrical receptacle, switch, appliance, device or other ignition source. The wall space between the dispenser and the floor shall remain clear and unobstructed.
- Dispensers shall be mounted so that the bottom of the dispenser is a minimum of 42 inches and a maximum of 48 inches above the finished floor.
- Dispensers shall not release their contents except when the dispenser is manually activated.
- Dispensers installed in occupancies with carpeted floors shall only be allowed in smoke compartments or fire areas equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

While alcohol-based hand sanitizer is recognized as an effective means to clean hands, careful hand washing with soap and water (when available) is the preferred method to clean hands. Please see the SED guidance on the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/schoolhealth/schoolhealthservices/handsanitizerfieldmemo.pdf>

## SAVE THE DATE



**School Nurses' Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 7, 2015**

**3:30 p.m.**

**Distance Learning Room**

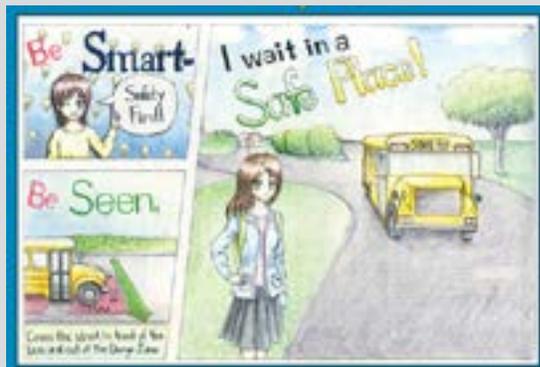
**Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES  
Regional Education Center  
1879 W. Genesee St. Rd.  
Auburn, NY**

## National School Bus Safety Week is Observed

**National School Bus Safety Week**  
**October 19-23, 2015**

Each fall, the third full week of October is designated as National School Bus Safety Week. This annual observation is a public education program and a way for parents, students, teachers, motorists, school bus operators, school administrators, among others, to promote school bus safety.

Every year, the theme of National School Bus Safety Week is last year's Poster Contest Winner. The theme for 2015 is "Be Smart - Be Seen, I wait in a safe place!"



Artwork produced during National School Bus Safety Week's annual poster contest is used in promotions throughout the year. Resources are available at the National Association for Pupil Transportation website to develop programs and events that address the importance of school bus safety.

For more information about National School Bus Safety Week, visit <http://napt.org/resources/national-school-bus-safety-week.php>



## School Bus Safety on the Internet

Check out these websites for school bus safety information:

**NHTSA School Bus Safety Page:**  
<http://www.nhtsa.gov/School-Buses>

This site includes information on school bus safety as well as portals to other National Highway Traffic Safety Administration web pages.

**School Bus Safety Kids Page:**  
<http://www.safeny.ny.gov/kids.htm>

Comprehensive site on school bus safety issues designed for children. Sponsored by the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.

# School Fire Drills

Fire drills are required by Section 807 of the Education Law. The drills are conducted to ensure that schools are ready to evacuate buildings in a rapid, orderly fashion during an actual emergency.

At least twelve drills must be held during the school year. Eight drills must occur between September first and December first. One drill must be conducted during the lunch hour. At least two additional drills must be held during summer school in buildings where summer school is held. One of these drills must be conducted during the first week of summer school. Evacuation times should be recorded and kept on file. Building Administrators and Superintendents must certify this information on the annual SED Fire Safety Report.



## Fire Prevention Week October 4-10, 2015

The nation's longest running public health and safety observance is Fire Prevention Week, an annual fire safety educational opportunity.

Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a fire in half. This year's Fire Prevention Week message is to keep families safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom, as well as outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home including the basement.

The National Fire Protection Association has information - including scholastic materials - at <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/fire-prevention-week>

# Philips Recalls Halogen Bulbs Due to Laceration and Burn Hazards



Consumers should stop using this product unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

Name of product: Halogen Bulbs

Hazard: The lens of the bulb can shatter in the lamp or the lens can fall and shatter, posing a laceration and burn hazard.

Units: About 370,000

Description and Models: This recall involves Philips 60W PAR 16 120V halogen bulbs manufactured from November 2013 to March 2015. Date codes that represent the month and year of production are painted on the bulb glass along with "PHILIPS Halogena PAR 16," "China" and "60W/120/V." Recalled bulb date codes include:

Affected Date Codes		
2013	2014	2015
3L, 3M	4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4M	5A, 5B, 5C

Incidents/Injuries: Philips has received 13 reports of the lens of the bulb shattering, including five reports of property damage totaling about \$700 and two laceration injuries.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using these recalled bulbs, remove them from any fixtures and contact Philips to request packaging materials and instructions for returning the recalled bulbs at no cost. Philips will provide free replacement bulbs.

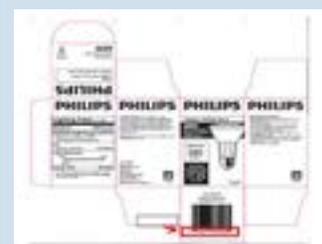
Sold at: Home Depot stores and professional distributors nationwide and online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) from November 2013 through March 2015 for about \$10.

Manufacturer(s): Firstech Lighting Corporation, of Shenzhen, China

Importer(s): Philips Lighting North America Corporation, of Somerset, N.J.

Manufactured in: China

Consumer Contact: Philips Lighting North America Corporation at 800-239-6587 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, email at [halogenlamp@philips.com](mailto:halogenlamp@philips.com) and online at [www.philips.com/recall](http://www.philips.com/recall) and select "United States/English" for more information.



## NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, age, marital status, partnership status, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, sexual orientation, gender (sex), military status, veteran status, domestic violence victim status or political affiliation, and additionally does not discriminate against students on the basis of weight, gender identity, gender expression, and religious practices or any other basis prohibited by New York state and/or federal non-discrimination laws in employment or its programs and activities. The BOCES provides equal access to community and youth organizations.

Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies should be directed to:

Randy Ray  
Director of Labor Relations and Civil Rights  
Compliance Officer  
1879 West Genesee Street Road  
Auburn, NY 13021  
(315) 255-7683  
[rray@caybores.org](mailto:rray@caybores.org)



## October Health Observances

### October 7 • Walk to School Day

National Center for Safe Routes to School  
730 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Suite 300 Chapel Hill,  
NC 27599-3430

[walk@walktoschool.org](mailto:walk@walktoschool.org)  
[www.walktoschool-usa.org/index.cfm](http://www.walktoschool-usa.org/index.cfm)

### October 1 - 31 • National Bullying Prevention Month

PACER Center, Inc.  
8161 Normandale Blvd.  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
[bullying411@pacer.org](mailto:bullying411@pacer.org)  
[www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/](http://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/)



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