

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baby Boomers – Keep Your Home Safe for Youngsters with Proper Use and Storage of Household Products

Washington, DC (March 13, 2008)—March 17-21 is National Poison Prevention Week and the Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA) is urging all Americans—especially baby boomers or those who may not have youngsters living at home but who often have visiting grandchildren—to make sure their homes are safe.

As an active member of the National Poison Prevention Week Council, CSPA is helping to raise awareness of the importance of proper handling and storing of consumer products, such as household cleaning products, that are typically stored under kitchen sinks or in closets and can be easily accessed by young children.

“People who do not have young children living with them on a regular basis may not be aware of just how accessible their home cleaning products are,” said Christopher Cathcart, President of CSPA. “Our industry has always placed a very high priority on ensuring consumer protection, from thoroughly testing the safety of their products to placing strong emphasis on consumer education.”

There are a number of ways consumers can ensure their homes are safe from inquisitive youngsters:

Properly dispose of unused products

- Dispose of household products properly and read the instruction labels for proper disposal methods.

Store products safely

- Store household products out of the reach of children.
- Install childproof safety latches on cabinets. Lock up those products that are not used every day.
- If it is not practical to lock away a product after each use, make sure it is stored out of the reach of children and that they are never left unattended in the area.
- Keep household products in their original containers as most labels include first aid and medical treatment information.
- Store medicines and household products separately.

Use products safely

- Buy products that are clearly labeled for proper use and packaged in childproof containers, when appropriate.
- Reclose childproof packaging correctly.
- If you are interrupted while using a household cleaning product, make sure you place it out of the reach of children.
- Never transfer products from their original packaging, especially into containers that children might associate with food or drink.
- Never make your own home cleaning solution as they cannot be referenced in a poison center’s information center in the case of an emergency.

“While everyone wants to maintain a clean, safe home, it is sometimes easy to forget what it actually means to be safe and clean,” continued Cathcart. “National Poison Prevention Week helps remind us all of how important it is to store and dispose of all consumer products in a responsible manner.”

About CSPA

The Consumer Specialty Products Association is a non-profit national trade association representing approximately 260 companies engaged in the manufacture, formulation, distribution and sale of hundreds of familiar consumer products. It is organized into seven divisions: Aerosol Products, Air Care, Antimicrobial Products, Cleaning Products, Pest Management Products, Industrial and Automotive Specialty Chemicals, and Polishes and Floor Maintenance. For more information, please visit www.cspa.org.

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