



CPSC Safety Alert



CPSC Warns Consumers of Impalement Hazard with Exposed Bicycle Handlebars

As consumers head outside to bicycle in the warm weather across the United States, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is warning consumers about an impalement hazard from the sharp, exposed ends of metal handlebars. CPSC is aware of at least four impalement deaths and 23 serious injuries in connection with exposed metal bicycle handlebars since 2003. The most recent death occurred in 2019 and involved an 11 year old boy. The three other deaths involved children aged 6 and 7, and a 50 year old man. Injuries and deaths can occur when children and adults fall from their bicycles onto handlebars that can get twisted during the fall.

CPSC recommends that consumers inspect their bicycles for this serious hazard on a regular basis. Handlebar ends should be covered by protective plastic or rubber grips that are in good condition.

If the bicycle's handlebar ends are exposed or the plastic grips are showing signs of wear, it is important to get new grips. Grips can be purchased at bicycle shops, other stores and online. Grips can help prevent these horrific injuries and deaths.

Report injuries with this and other consumer products to CPSC at www.SaferProducts.gov.

