Prevent and be prepared for fire and burn emergencies.
- Install and test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Make sure your home has working detectors installed on every level, near sleeping areas, and at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
- Place fresh batteries in all detectors and test every month.
- Maintain a “kid-free” zone around all cooking areas.
- Blow out candles and turn off holiday lights before going to bed.
- Create and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of your home.

Buckle up all children in the backseat
- Bulky winter coats and car seats are dangerous when used together.
  - The coat can compress in a crash and create a loose car seat harness, putting your child at greater risk of injury in the event of a crash.
  - Instead, lay the jacket over your children like a blanket once your child is safely secured.
- Have your car seat inspected by a trained car seat technician.
- All children are safer properly buckled up in the back seat for all rides.
- All riders should remain buckled up for the entire ride, even the driver.

Winter safety reminders from Safe Kids
Create a safe sleeping environment for your baby.

- Extra blankets and soft bedding can block an infant’s airway while he sleeps. Use only a firm mattress with a tight fitting crib.
- Try using a sleep sack (a wearable blanket) to keep babies warm.
- Lay babies on their back to sleep in their own crib or bassinet.
- Let your baby spend some time on his tummy while he is awake.
- If you are travelling, remember that your baby will also need a safe place to sleep while staying in a hotel or with friends or relatives.
- The car seat is only to be used for travel, not as a sleeping area.

Know about medication safety for the cold and flu season.

- Be alert to potential hazards of medicine stored in other locations, like pills in purses, vitamins on counters and medicine in nightstands. Kids are curious and can get into medication in many different places.
- Keep all medication and other poisons up and away out of children’s reach.
- Only use the dosing device that came with the medication.
- Program the nationwide Poison Help Number (800-222-1222) into your phones.

Enjoy outdoor activities safely

- Check the weather forecast before heading out, and dress appropriately.
- Wear helmets and proper safety gear when skiing, sledding or snowboarding.
- Staying well hydrated is just as important when it is cold outside.
- Take frequent breaks indoors to prevent frostbite and hypothermia.

Be prepared for emergencies at home and on the road.

- Winterize your home and vehicles to prepare for winter weather.
- Have your furnace or heating system serviced at least once a year.
- Have a plan in place in the event of a weather emergency or utility outage.

For more information, contact Safe Kids at 859-323-1153 or visit www.safekidsfayettecounty.com.