

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
MAY 2015
TIP OF THE MONTH

With the hot weather and official start of summer, now is a good time for parents and caregivers to consider the dangers of leaving children in hot cars. It may seem like an impossible thing to do, but clearly the unthinkable can and does happen. Often, such tragedies involve hurried parents and caregivers, especially those drivers who change their routine. Some knowingly leave children in a car “just for a minute” not realizing how quickly the temperature in a car can rise to dangerous levels.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has just announced a campaign to educate and urge parents to think “Where’s baby? Look before you lock.” Here are some tips to help keep your children safe.

- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, not even for a minute. It is not only dangerous, it is the law in many states.
- Check the car to make sure that all occupants leave the vehicle or are carried out when unloading. If you lock the door with a key, rather than with a remote, it would force that one last look in the car before leaving it.
- Always lock your car and keep keys and remotes away from children.
- Keep a stuffed animal in the front passenger seat as a reminder of a child in the backseat.
- Place something in the backseat that you would need, such as a purse, briefcase or cell phone.
- Have a plan that your childcare provider will call you if your child does not show up.
- If you see a child alone in a car, especially if they seem hot, call 911 immediately to help get them out.

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