

# Safety Fact Sheet



The Utah Safety Council cares about your safety outside of the work setting. We offer resources that keep you and your loved ones safe at home, at play and on the go.

## BASEMENT OR UTILITY ROOM HAZARDS

- Have a working smoke detector in the basement. Keep it free of dust and debris by vacuuming over and around it regularly. Test batteries monthly and replace them twice a year.
- Keep hazardous products out of the children's reach. Lock up all chemicals, paint, pesticides, sharp tools and hardware in a latched or locked cabinet.
- Place a label on or near each gas and water line's shut-off valve so they are easy to locate and turn off in the event of an emergency.
- Label the main electrical switch so it's easy to locate in an emergency. Make sure you know how to properly turn it off as well.
- Refer to the user's manual included with your furnace and water heater for proper procedures on how to light the pilot light on each one.
- Make sure that your water heater is securely fastened to the wall prevent damage during a potential earthquake.
- Improperly grounded laundry appliances can cause electrical shock, especially if the area near them is damp. Check with a service person or electrician if you are not sure if they are grounded properly.