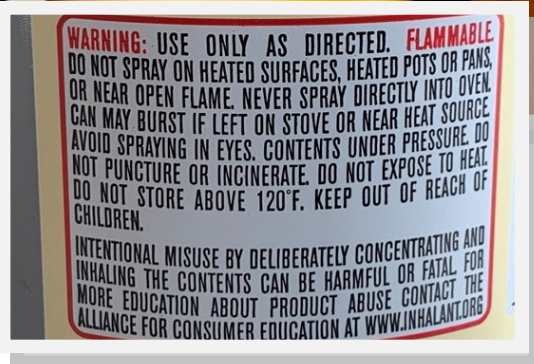




Fire Safety Advisory 2019-1: Conagra Brands Cooking Sprays



A recent lawsuit against Conagra Brands, the makers of PAM and similar cooking sprays, claims that cans of Pam cooking spray are exploding. At least eight people suffered burns when cooking spray cans exploded. According to the lawsuits, the explosions might be caused by the u-shaped vent system at the bottom of the cans. The lawsuits claim the cans designed with this feature are unsafe. The cans that have been involved in the explosions are 10 ounce cans or larger and feature a venting mechanism. They can be purchased at Costco and other wholesale stores but are not available at most supermarkets. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission is investigating the explosions and the safety of cooking spray products. Until this is resolved please follow these important safety tips.

SAFETY TIPS

- Read all warnings on the can of cooking spray
- Do not spray on heated surfaces such as pots, pans or grills
- Do not spray directly into oven
- Do not leave can on stove or near any other heat source
- Do not puncture or incinerate can
- Do not expose to heat
- Do not store above 120°F



Fire Safety Bulletin 2019-2: 9 Volt Battery Fires



On August 2, 2019 the fire department in Mount Olive, NJ extinguished a small house fire that appeared to have been caused by two 9 Volt batteries being in close contact with each other (pictured above). According to the National Fire Protection Association, 9-volt batteries can become dangerous if the positive and negative posts are close together or if a metal object touches the two posts of a 9-volt battery. Improper connection of the positive and negative posts can cause a short circuit which can make enough heat to start a fire. Even weak 9 Volt batteries may have enough charge to cause a fire. Some fires have started in trash when 9-volt batteries were thrown away with other metal items.

SAFETY TIPS

- Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them.
- If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape.
- Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.
- Keep batteries someplace safe where they won't be tossed around.
- Store batteries standing up.
- 9-volt batteries should not be stored loose in a drawer.
- Do not store them in containers with other batteries.
- 9-volt batteries should not be thrown away with trash. They can come in contact with other batteries or pieces of metal