For more information please contact the Health Promotion Program at 240-777-1710 or check us out on the internet at:
www.montgomerycountymd.gov
When warm weather arrives, families throughout the community open windows to let the fresh air in. Households with small children need to take special precautions to keep children safe around open windows. In 2007, four Montgomery County children were injured and one child died from their injuries, after falling out of open windows.

Conventional window screens are not designed to prevent a child from falling out of a window. Deaths and injuries can occur when children push themselves against window screens or climb onto furniture next to an open window.

In the United States each year, nearly 4,000 children, mostly toddlers, fall out of windows. More than 25 percent of those injured require hospitalization and more than a dozen die from their injuries.

Five Tips Can Help Prevent a Child from Falling Out of an Open Window

1. No safety device can take the place of active, adult supervision. NEVER leave a child unsupervised near an open window.
2. Move cribs, toddler beds, playpens and other furniture away from windows so that children cannot climb out to the ledge.
3. Windows should not be opened more than four inches from the bottom window sills. Window guards and stoppers are available and will keep windows open to four inches.
4. Open double-hung windows, those that open from the top and bottom, only from the top of the window.
5. If a child appears to be seriously injured after a fall from a window, do not move the child yourself. CALL 911 immediately.