

NEWS

North Metro Fire District warns of button battery hazards

By **BROOMFIELD ENTERPRISE** |

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This week, North Metro Fire Rescue District announced it is spearheading local efforts for “The Battery Controlled.” The national partnership was launched by Safe Kids Worldwide and Energizer to share life-saving information with parents and caregivers about the potential risks of swallowing coin-size lithium batteries.

Coin-sized button batteries can get stuck in the throats of children. The saliva immediately triggers an electrical current that causes a chemical reaction that can severely burn the esophagus in as little as two hours, according to North Metro. In some cases, children have died from their injuries.

Coin-sized button batteries, approximately the size of a nickel, are found in everyday devices such as remote control devices that unlock car doors and control portable DVD players, MP3 speakers and other devices; calculators; bathroom scales; reading lights; flameless candles; and talking and singing books and greeting cards.

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