



Communication Services

NEWSLETTER INSERT  
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## INHALANT ABUSE ALERT

Parents should be aware of a very dangerous and potentially fatal activity that some young people in Canada and the U.S. have been known to engage in. Recently, evidence of the activity has been discovered in a Surrey secondary school.

The practice is known as “huffing” and can involve several different household products, but particularly the product “Dust-Off”. Dust-Off is a can of compressed air used to clean computer keyboards and other components. Young people inhale the air from the can; however, the air is a mixture of several chemicals that can cause suffocation.

While the activity so far appears to be rare in our schools, the Surrey School District and the Surrey RCMP want parents to be aware of it since the practice can result in death, whether someone is huffing for the first or tenth time.

If you have Dust-Off in your household, the Surrey School District and Surrey RCMP recommend keeping the can in a secured location. Also, discuss the issue with your children to ensure they understand how deadly inhalant abuse can be.

More information about “huffing” and inhalant abuse is available at the web site of the manufacturer of “Dust-Off” at:

- <http://www.falconsafety.com/default.aspx?pageid=46>.

Information is also available at these sites:

- <http://www.snopes.com/toxins/dustoff.asp>.
- <http://www.inhalants.com/>



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