FIREARM CLEANING SAFETY

Information available from the California Department of Health Services indicates that between 2000 and 2004 an annual average of 10 youth aged 13 to 20 were unintentionally killed by firearms. An annual average of 220 youth suffered unintentional firearm injuries that required hospitalization during the same time period. Data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate about 70 percent of the unintentional firearm injuries are self inflicted and involve gunshot wounds to arms, hands, legs, and/or feet. Unintentional firearm injuries or fatalities usually happen while a person is carrying a loaded gun or during the routine cleaning, loading, or unloading of a gun.

For additional information about firearm cleaning safety, go to the Clover Safe note at: [http://ucanr.org/cloversafe](http://ucanr.org/cloversafe).

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