

CANNING METHODS NOT RECOMMENDED AND WHY You wouldn't slosh gasoline on the wood in your fireplace just because it would be a faster way to

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Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas

Lancaster Extension Home Economist

start a fire, would you? Well, you shouldn't use unsafe canning methods just because they're faster either. Many unsafe methods of canning have surfaced over time and should be avoided.

Open kettle canning is unsafe. Open kettle canning means food is cooked in an open kettle until it is adequately heat-processed. Then it is packed into sterile jars and sealed without additional processing. This method of canning is not recommended because transferring the food from the open kettle to a sterile jar can expose it to additional microorganisisms and recontaminate the food. Also, the heat processing in the open kettle does not always kill all the microorganisms that could cause spoilage.

Steam canning, in spite of research done in the past ten years, is not a safe canning method either. Steam canners that are marketed today do not allow for venting of steam. Instead of pure, saturated steam or boiling water, steam canners use a mixture of air and steam which is not deadly to microorganisms and which will not sterilize your canned food

Oven canning in any oven conventional or microwave - is unsafe. The balance of internal and external pressure in an oven cannot be maintained as in a canner. Glass jars may break or

explode from this uneven pressure and result in the loss of food or injuiry if it occurs while opening the oven. An oven also does not distribute heat evenly, resulting in some jars not being heated enough for sterilization. Jar lids also don't seal well in the dry heat of an oven.

Automatic dishwasher canning is also unsafe. Dishwashers were made to wash dishes, not process food. The temperature of water in a dishwasher is usually about 130-160°F, not nearly hot enough to process canned food.

Aspirin canning is another unsafe method. Aspirin is not a preservative and doesn't contain enough acid to change the acidity of any food. It cannot replace or even reduce the need for heat processing of canned foods.

Cold pack is not a canning method, but the terminology could cause some problems if used literally. When cold or raw foods are packed into jars, you must also process the full jars in boiling water or in a pressure canner for the recommended times to sterilize the food.

The only two recommended methods of processing food are boiling-water and pressure-processing canning. The method you use depends on the type of food you're processing. Use a pressure canner for canning meats and vegetables, other than tomatoes and pickled beets. Use a boiling

water bath for canning fruits, tomatoes and all pickled foods.

For specifice instructions on canning home foods safely, contact the Penn State Extension Service office in your county.

WINDOW SHADES TAKE THE "SIZZLE" OUT OF COOLING COSTS, NEW STUDY FINDS

Want to beat the high costs of air conditioning your home, and still keep inside temperatures down? Try shades. That's right — window shades — the opaque, vinly-covered cloth kind that are economical and easy to install.

Researchers at North Carolina State University have been studying ways to keep inside temperatures down during hot days — and shades have taken top honors. They say that by pulling shades on sunny windows, heat build-up inside is reduced by 60 percent.

Other preventers of heat buildup are venetian blinds and draperies. Venetian blinds are only about half as effective as the regular window shades, while draperies can reduce air conditioning costs by 40 percent.

Incidentally, windows are the big offenders in heat build-up inside the home, just as they lose the most heat in winter. A sunny window allows 10 times more heat to enter a home than does the adjacent wall.

Jackie King named Adams Co. Poultry Queen

YORK SPRINGS — Jackie King of York Springs was selected the 1984 Adams County Poultry Queen last Saturday evening at the York Springs Fire Hall.

Jackie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale King, was crowned by last year's queen Kathy Moore.

Also vying for the crown was Sherry Bowmaster of Biglerville. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Bowmaster.

The contestants were required to present three to five minute presentations on some facet of the poultry industry and had personal 'the judges. interview

ac devoting much of Jac⁺ her next year representing the Adams County poultrymen.

Lancaster Lads, a comedy barbershop quartet from Lancaster County, provided the entertainment for the evening.

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