		the infant in the back seat in a proper car seat restraint.
	Car seat restraint	See discussion earlier in this chapter.
Drowning	Bath tub	Never leave infant unattended in tub or sink of water.
	Swimming pools,	Place fence around pools with gate lock that is out of child's
	bird baths,	reach. Supervise infants in water at all times; an infant may
	decorative ponds of	
	water, splash pads	are encouraged but are not foolproof for drowning if infant
		or child hits head on hard object and becomes unconscious
		as falling into the water.
	5-gallon buckets	Keep 5-gallon buckets empty of water or elevated out of
		child's reach.

<sup>\*</sup>A number of parent education pamphlets (such as *Crib Safety Tips* and *Is Your Used Crib Safe?*) are available in English and Spanish from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; 800-638-2772; http://www.cpsc.gov.

## **Motor Vehicle Injuries**

A significant number of infants are injured or die from improper restraint within vehicles, most often from riding on the lap of another occupant. Desapriya, Joshi, Subwarzi, et al, (2008) found that falls accounted for a significant proportion of injuries (98%) in infants from birth to 4 months old as a result of inappropriate use of a car restraint system. Reports indicate that child restraint use decreases with increasing age of children and increasing number of occupants. Lack of proper child restraint continues to be a major factor in fatal accidents involving children. One observational report of newborns being placed in a car seat restraint by their family found a 52% incidence of newborn infants placed incorrectly in car seat restraints and a 48% incidence of errors in the placement of infant car seat restraints with 29% of the car seat restraints not attached to the vehicle (Rogers, Gallo, Saleheen, et al, 2012). All infants must be secured in federally-approved restraints rather than held or placed on the seat of the car. There is no safe alternative. Car seat restraints have an expiration date on the seat or in the owner's manual, which indicates the date when it should be destroyed and a new model purchased. If the car seat is in a motor vehicle accident, it may need to be replaced.

Infant restraints are designed either as an infant-only model or as a convertible infant-toddler model. Either restraint is a semi-reclined seat that faces the rear of the car. A rear-facing car seat provides the best protection for the disproportionately heavy head and weak neck of an infant. This position minimizes the stress on