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**Clean Up and Use Balloons Safely to Make Mothers Proud
Smart Balloon Practices Make Mother's Day and Graduation Celebrations Better**

Trenton, N.J. -- May is a month filled with amazing life celebrations, and millions of balloons will be purchased to help make these events even more special. Whether you choose balloons to symbolize love for Mother's Day or create arrangements in school colors for graduation, make sure to "Be Balloon Smart."

The Balloon Council's national Smart Balloon Practices campaign encourages people to take a few simple steps to ensure that balloons are used and disposed of properly, so they don't wind up where they don't belong. The Balloon Council is an organization made up of responsible retailers, distributors, and manufactures that are dedicated to educating others about the wonders of balloons and the proper handling of them.

Here are some quick "Be Balloon Smart" tips to follow this Mother's Day:

- **Hug your mother and your balloon** - Do not release balloons into the air – they can end up in places where they don't belong.
- **Don't let go of your mother's hand or your balloon** - Keep balloons secured with a string and tied to a weight
- **Thank our mothers for teaching us how to clean up** - When finished with balloons, pop them and properly dispose of them. Save your foil balloons to reuse later.
- **Thank our mothers for keeping us safe** - Children with balloons should always be monitored. Children under eight (8) years of age can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons
- **Make your mother laugh, but do not use helium** - Despite the funny voice helium can give you, it should never be inhaled.

"Everyone loves balloons. They are bright, colorful, and lift our spirits. But, we all need to do our part and be mindful of these smart practices to ensure that balloons are a part of our celebrations for years to come," says Dan Flynn, Chairman of The Balloon Council.

The national education campaign is designed to empower the public to "Be Balloon Smart" and features Faraday, a life-sized spokesballoon, who shares Smart Balloon tips with people of all ages at public events.

Share your balloon filled celebration photos by posting with the hashtag #BeBalloonSmart to Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/balloonsliftup> or Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/balloonsliftup/>.

To learn more about the Faraday campaign visit www.BalloonsLiftUp.com

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