

Dive into Safe Summer Fun

Nearly 300 children under five years old drown in swimming pools each year. In addition, nearly 4,000 children younger than five are hospitalized due to submersion injuries in pools. It is important all adults and children understand water safety to better enjoy summer activities, especially with everyone being home and looking for more fun outdoor activities to get out of the house. Families can work together to adopt and practice safety steps around the water. Establishing these simple water safety steps will save a life!

- Stay Close, Be Alert, and Watch**

Always watch children around water; never leave unattended even if a lifeguard is present. Have a phone charged and nearby in case of an emergency. If a child is missing, check the pool first.

- Learn and practice water safety skills**

All family members should learn to swim. Provide swim lessons to children. Know how to perform CPR. Understand the basics of life-saving so you can assist in a pool emergency. Always have children in the proper water gear (life vests, jackets, floats, etc.).

- Have the appropriate equipment**

Install a fence around the pool with self-closing and self-latching gates. Maintain pool equipment and make sure drains are covered and compliant to safety standards. Have lifesaving equipment available for use (poles, life rings, etc.).

- Avoid Drain Entrapments**

Be aware of drain locations. Do not play or swim near drains. Be cautious! Hair, limbs, and body can be lodged and/or suctioned by drains. Jewelry and bathing suits can also become entangled in drains or drain covers. Maintain drains and fix any broken or faulty covers.

Enjoy making memories during a fun and relaxing summer by helping children learn to be safe and smart near water! This information was provided by www.poolsafely.gov. Visit their website for additional information.