

Pool Safety



According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission...

- In recent years an average of about 250 children under 5 years old drowned in pools nationwide annually.
 - More than half of these deaths occurred in the summer months.
 - Among unintentional injuries, drowning is the second leading cause of death to this age group after motor vehicle incidents.
- Another 2,700 children are treated in hospital emergency rooms each year for near-drowning incidents.
 - Most of these cases involve residential pools.

Tips to Prevent Drowning

- Fences and walls should be at least 4 feet high and installed completely around the pool.
 - Fence gates should be self-closing and self-latching.
 - Keep latches away from children.
 - Keep furniture that could be used for climbing into the pool area away from fences.
- If your house forms one side of the barrier to the pool, place an alarm on doors leading from the house to the pool.
- Use a power safety cover -- a motor-powered barrier that can be placed over the water area -- when the pool is not in use.
- Keep rescue equipment by the pool.
- Know cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- Have a phone is poolside with emergency numbers posted nearby.
- Don't leave pool toys and floats in the pool or pool area that may attract young children to the water.
- Above-ground pools – secure and lock or remove ladders to the pool when the pool isn't in use.
- If a child is missing, look in the pool first.
- Install a pool alarm.
 - Look for alarms that meet the requirements of the ASTM standard.
 - Use remote alarm receivers so the alarm can be heard inside the house or away from the pool area.
- To prevent body entrapment and hair entanglement - have a qualified pool professional inspect the drain suction fittings and covers on your pool and spa to be sure that they are the correct size, properly attached, and meet safety standards.
 - If your pool or spa has a single drain outlet, consider installing a safety vacuum release system that breaks the vacuum to avoid potential entrapment conditions.