



Swimming Safety – Home Pools

Safeguard the Pool Area

- Isolate the pool with a self-locking, self-closing fence with vertical bars.
 - Fences should be at least 4 feet tall.
 - Openings in the fence should be no more than 4 inches wide.
- Install safety covers and alarms on doors leading to the pool area.
- Don't keep furniture near the fence that would enable a child to climb over the fence.
- Remove covers completely before using the pool and replace them immediately after use.
- Never leave toys in the pool area or in the pool. Toys can attract young children into the pool.

Provide effective supervision

- Keep your eyes on children in the pool and pool area at all times.
- Never leave a child alone when they are in or near a pool.
- During social gatherings, designate an adult to supervise the pool area. Never assume that someone else is watching a child.
- If a child is missing, look in the water first.
- Become certified in CPR so you can provide care for someone if an emergency occurs.

Prepare for an Emergency

- Learn to swim. Several places throughout the County offer swimming lessons. Check in the Directory for locations and contact information.
- Anyone over 14 years old should learn CPR so they can provide care for someone if an emergency occurs.
- Install a phone by the pool or keep a cordless phone nearby so you can call 9-1-1 during an emergency.
- Keep rescue equipment, such as a pole, rope and personal flotation device, near the pool.
 - Teach everyone how to use the safety equipment.