

Pool simple steps save lives



SAFELY

Simple Water Safety Steps Can Save Lives



Your greatest water safety assurance comes from adopting and practicing as many safety steps as possible. Adding an extra safety step around the water can make all the difference.

You can never know which safety step will save a life — until it does.

Stay Close, Be Alert and Watch

- Always watch your children and never leave them unattended
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings
- Have a phone close by at all times
- If a child is missing, check the pool first
- Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors

Learn and Practice Water Safety Skills

- Learn to swim; it's fun and good exercise
- Know how to perform CPR on children and adults
- Understand the basics of life saving so that you can assist in a pool emergency

Have the Appropriate Equipment

- Install a fence around the perimeter of the pool and spa of at least four feet in height
- Use self-closing and self-latching gates
- Ensure the pools and spas you use have compliant drain covers
- Install a door alarm from the house to the pool area
- Maintain pool and spa covers in working order
- Have life-saving equipment such as life rings or reaching poles available for use





Pool Safely is a national public education campaign to reduce child drownings, non-fatal submersions and entrapments in public swimming pools and spas. The campaign was developed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to carry out the requirements of the *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act*, federal legislation mandating new requirements for public pools and spas, including a public education campaign.

Few people know of the hidden dangers from drain or suction entrapments. What's more, nearly 300 children under the age of five drown in residential and public pools and spas each year. Submersion incidents requiring emergency-room treatment or hospitalization number in the thousands and some victims experience permanent disability, including brain damage.

CPSC is working with other safety groups and state and local governments to ensure drowning and entrapment prevention become important public safety priorities by:

- Enforcing requirements that all public pools and spas have anti-entrapment drain covers and other safety equipment, as needed;
- Reducing child drownings, non-fatal submersions and suction entrapments in pools and spas;
- Encouraging the use of multiple safety steps in and around pools and spas; and
- Educating the public on the importance of constant supervision of children in and around water.

You and your family can *Pool Safely* and enjoy time at pools and spas by adopting extra safety steps.

For more information and resources for pool and spa safety and the Pool and Spa Safety Act, visit:

www.PoolSafely.gov

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*A public education campaign from the
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission*

