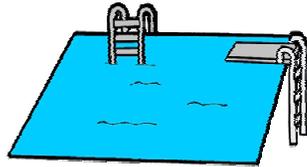


Connecticut State Police
T I P S
Topics In Public Safety

POOL SAFETY

Checklist for pool safety:

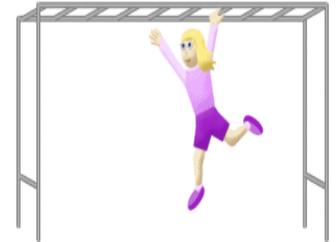
- ✓ Never swim alone. Use the buddy system and maintain eye contact.
- ✓ Never leave children (even those who can swim) unattended in, around or near pools – not even for a few moments.
- ✓ Keep the pool area locked and secure when not in use.
- ✓ Swim only in supervised and approved areas.
- ✓ Keep rescue equipment near the pool. Have emergency flotation devices and a phone near the pool.
- ✓ Enroll children in swim lessons.
- ✓ Enforce water safety rules. No running, pushing or dunking.
- ✓ Never falsely claim to need help in the water.
- ✓ Take all toys out of the pool when not swimming so that children will not be tempted to go after the toys.
- ✓ Learn CPR and water rescue techniques.
- ✓ Have a professional inspect all entrapment hazards in the pool, including the pump and drain.
- ✓ Know and mark the location of the electrical cut-off switch for the pool pump.



PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Checklist for playground safety:

- ✓ Never leave children unattended.
- ✓ A soft surface with a minimum depth of 12 inches should surround all equipment. Items such as wood chips, bark mulch, wood fibers, sand, pea gravel, shredded tires and rubber mats cushion falls best.
- ✓ Equipment should be surrounded by a clearing of a 6-foot use zone.
- ✓ Guardrails should surround elevated platforms and should be at least 29 inches high for preschoolers and 38 inches high for school-age children.
- ✓ Be sure that your child plays on age-appropriate equipment.
- ✓ Remove any hoods or drawstrings from clothing that may snag.
- ✓ Be aware of moving items, such as swings.
- ✓ Swings should be about 24 inches apart. Place babies and toddlers in full bucket swings for the safest play.
- ✓ Check slides to ensure that they are well-anchored, have firm handrails and good traction on the steps.
- ✓ Use a traditional spring-loaded see saw, with tires under the seats.
- ✓ 40% of all playground injuries occur on climbing equipment. Watch children closely!



Compliments of:

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