



BEVERLY HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

Drowning Prevention Through Education



A swimming pool in the yard can be very dangerous for children. If possible, do not put a swimming pool in your yard until your children are older than 5 years. If you already have a pool, protect your children from drowning by doing the following:

1. Never leave your children alone in or near the pool, even for a moment.
2. You must put up a fence to separate your house from your pool. Most young children who drown in pools wander out of the house and fall into the pool. This fence should be at least 5 feet high around all 4 side of the pool. This fence will completely separate the pool from the house and play area of the yard. Use gates with self-close and self-latch, with release mechanism placed not lower than 60" above the ground.
3. A safety cover that meets the standards of American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) adds to the protection of your children but should not be used in place of the fence between your house and the pool. Even fencing your pool and using power safety cover will not prevent all drowning's.
4. Keep rescue equipment (such as a shepherd's hook or life preserver) and a telephone by the pool.
5. Do not let your child use air-filled "swimming aids" because they are not substitute for approved life vests and can be dangerous.
6. Anyone watching young children around the pool should learn CPR and be able to rescue a child if needed. Stay within an arm's length of your child.
7. Remove all toys from the pool after use so children aren't tempted to reach for them.
8. After the children are done swimming, secure the pool so they can't get back into it.
9. Exit door alarms are highly recommended to be placed to doors that lead to pool area or swimming pool alarms. These devices help alert parent or guardian of entry to pool area or possible pool entry.



Drowning Statistics:

- According to the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention), in the United States, on average 3,536 people died from drowning annual from 2005 to 2014, which equates to 10 deaths each day.
- According to the CDC, Drowning is the number one cause of unintentional death for children between the ages of 1 and 4.
- 76 percent of drowning deaths in the U.S. each year involve children younger than 5 years old.
- 67 percent of swimming pool drowning deaths involve children younger than 3 years old.
- 17 percent of swimming pool-related drowning deaths younger than 15 happen in an above-ground pool.
- 9 percent of those pediatric drowning deaths are in portable pools.
- A child can drown in the time it takes to answer the phone.
- Drowning happens quickly and without warning. There is often no cry for help. "CHILDREN DROWN WITHOUT A SOUND!"
- Remember, teaching your child how to swim **DOES NOT** mean your child is safe in the water.



For Information on First-Aid CPR classes, call 310-281-2753 or visit the website at www.beverlyhillscpr.org