

Children Drown Without a Sound

CAL FIRE/Riverside County Firefighters know all too well the tragic results of a child's death from drowning. Drowning is 100% preventable.

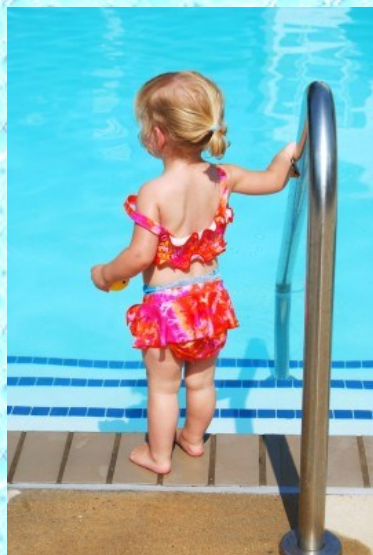
ABC's of WATER SAFETY

A = Adult supervision. Assign an adult Water Watcher to keep their eyes on the water at ALL times.

B = Barriers. Install fences, self-closing and self-latching gates, pool motion sensors, window and door alarms.

C = Classes. Parents and Caregivers should take CPR, First Aid and swimming courses that are available for both children and adults.

- Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional or accidental injury-related death to children ages one to four years old in Riverside County
- Over 80% of all drowning and near-drowning incidents occur in *backyard pools*.
- A submerged child can lose consciousness in less than two minutes (the time it takes to answer a phone) and sustain *permanent brain damage in only four to six minutes*.
- Children under the age of five have *no fear of water* and *no concept of death*. Water is associated with play.
- Remember, it takes very little water for a child to drown. *Less than one inch of water* is all it takes to cover the mouth and nose of a toddler.
- *July* is the *busiest month* for drowning related 9-1-1 calls.



CHILDREN DROWN WITH OUT A SOUND. DROWNING IS A QUIET EVENT. THERE IS NO SPLASHING, NO SCREAMING... NO NOISE AT ALL.

Prevention Tips:

- ◆ SUPERVISE! Never leave a child alone near a pool or spa, bathtub, pond, bucket of liquid, or any standing water.
- ◆ Assign an adult Water Watcher to keep their eyes on the water at ALL times.
- ◆ Do not allow children to play near the pool or spa.
- ◆ Keep toilet lids down. Install safety latches on the toilet lids to prevent toddlers from opening and playing in the toilet.
- ◆ Empty wading pools immediately after use and store upside-down.
- ◆ Bath rings are only bathing aids, not personal floatation devices.
- ◆ Never rely on devices or swimming lessons to protect children without supervision.
- ◆ Never drink alcoholic beverages before or during swimming or supervising children.

Be Prepared!

- ◆ Learn CPR and First Aid.
- ◆ Know your neighborhood and the homes your child visits. Is there a pool? Is it properly protected? If the children will be swimming, who will be supervising them?
- ◆ Learn how to swim and learn proper rescue techniques.
- ◆ Keep rescue equipment at/near the pool. DO NOT use air-filled swimming aids (such as water rings) in place of life preservers. These devices can give parents and children a false sense of security, which may increase the risk of drowning.
- ◆ Keep a portable telephone and emergency phone numbers nearby.

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