

What to Do in Case of a Drowning Emergency:

- ☐ Get the victim out of the water immediately
- ☐ Call 9-1-1
- ☐ Begin CPR if you are trained
- ☐ If not trained in CPR, follow the operator's instructions until help arrives



Facts and Statistics

DROWNING DEATHS AND INJURIES

#1 Drownings are the leading cause of injury death for children ages 1 to 4, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

DEATHS

Average: 390 Annual average number of drowning deaths in children ages 0-14 from 2007 through 2009 as reported to CPSC.

- ☐ In 2008, almost 4,600 persons visited an emergency department for pool chemical-associated injuries. The most common injury diagnoses were poisoning, which includes ingestion of pool chemicals as well as inhalation of vapor, fumes, or gases and dermatitis/conjunctivitis. More than half of the injuries occurred at a residence.

-Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

- ☐ From 1990 – 2004, 74 cases of body entrapment, including 13 confirmed deaths, were reported. The deaths were the result of drowning after the body, or a limb, was held against the drain by the suction of the circulation pump. A little less than half of the total incidents occurred at a residence.

-Consumer Product Safety Commission

- ☐ Over the past 13 years, 60 deaths and nearly 50 serious shocks were reported involving electrical hazards in and around swimming pools. Most of the incidents occurred at a residence.

-Consumer Product Safety Commission

Residential Pool Safety Program - Learn How to Make Your Pool Safer!



The **Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission** is offering a voluntary swimming pool inspection program to protect health and improve safety in the five municipalities of Bound Brook, Green Brook, South Bound Brook, Warren and Watchung. The new pool program aims to prevent drownings, chemical related injuries, entrapment and electrocution. Learn how to protect lives by contacting us at:

Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission

111 Greenbrook Road
Green Brook, New Jersey 08812
PHONE: 732-968-5151
EMAIL: mbrhc@middlebrookhealth.org
www.middlebrookhealth.org

Barrier Requirements

Applies to all pools, hot tubs, and spas 2 feet deep and greater

In-Ground Pools:

- Pool fencing should be at least 48 inches in height with a maximum of 2 inches vertical spacing between the ground and bottom of fence.
- Gates should be self-closing and have a self-latching device. The latch should be at least 54 inches above the ground. Gates should open away from the pool.

Above-ground Pools:

- Fencing should be mounted on top of the pool structure. A fence should also surround the ladder or steps.

Contact your Construction Official for Details!



References

- Section AG108.1 General
- ANSI/NSPI-4-99 Standard for Above-ground Residential Swimming Pools
- ANSI/NSPI-5-2003 Standard for Residential In-ground Swimming Pools
- ISPSA 2012 – International Swimming Pool and Spa Code
- CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- CPSC – Consumer Product Safety Commission



Swimming Pool Accidents Are 100% Preventable!

Safety Measures:

- Equip doors and gates with motion detector type alarms to alert about intruders and consider water surface alarms.
- Have rescue equipment (life ring, throw bag, pole, etc) ready for use and easily accessible.
- Have at least one person present that has CPR training.
- Adults should always supervise children in and around swimming pools.
- Check water chemistry regularly.

Prevention of Electrocutation:

- Keep cords, wires, and other electrical devices out of reach and at least 5 feet from the water.
- Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs):

Prevention of Chemical-Associated Injuries:

- Only allow those who have been trained in safe chemical storage and handling practices to handle pool chemicals.
- Do not mix individual pool chemicals together or with any other substances.
 - Do not mix different types of chlorine products
 - Do not mix old and new chemicals.
- Keep children away from chemicals.

Prevention of Entrapment:

- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments and entanglements.
- Ensure that pool has compliant drain covers.
- Consider installing a Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS)—a device that will automatically shut off a pump if a blockage is detected—or any other automatic shut-off systems in the pool.