



# Safety Tip of the Week

## National Water Safety Month

May serves as National Water Safety Month — a reminder that water safety is everyone's responsibility. As warmer weather approaches and summer vacations begin, and more people head outdoors to enjoy pools, lakes, rivers, and boating activities, understanding water safety is essential for everyone.

**POOL SAFETY:** Swimming pools are a popular way to cool off, but they require constant supervision and attention, especially of young children and non-swimmers. A drowning can happen very quickly and silently, so make sure to remain watchful around the pool, provide children with the support they need in the water, and follow the pool rules.

**LAKE SAFETY:** Lakes and rivers can contain hidden dangers such as sudden drop-offs, currents, rocks, and cold-water temperatures. Natural water conditions can change quickly, making awareness and preparation essential.

**OCEAN SAFETY:** The ocean presents unique hazards including waves, tides going out/in, rip currents, undertow, coral reefs and marine life. On the beach wind and sun present dangers as well. High winds can pick up sand and beach umbrellas, and too much sun can cause sunburn, heat exhaustion or worse.

**BOATING SAFETY:** Boating accidents often occur due to speeding, inattention, alcohol use, or failure to wear life jackets. Safe boating starts with preparation and responsible operation. First, check the weather forecast before departing, and make sure every passenger wears a properly sized life jacket. Lastly, file a "float plan" with someone on shore.



***STAY ALERT, PREPARED, AND SAFE AROUND WATER!!***