



HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

CSN
Children's Safety
Network
at Education Development Center

Pool Safety: When it comes to Pool and Spa Safety, More is Better

August 24th, 2015

Meeting Orientation

- If you are having any technical problems with the webinar please contact the Adobe Connect hotline at 1-800-416-7640 or type it into the Q&A box.
- For audio, listen through computer speakers or call into the phone line at 866-835-7973.
- Type any additional questions or comments into the Q&A box on the left

Today's Presenter

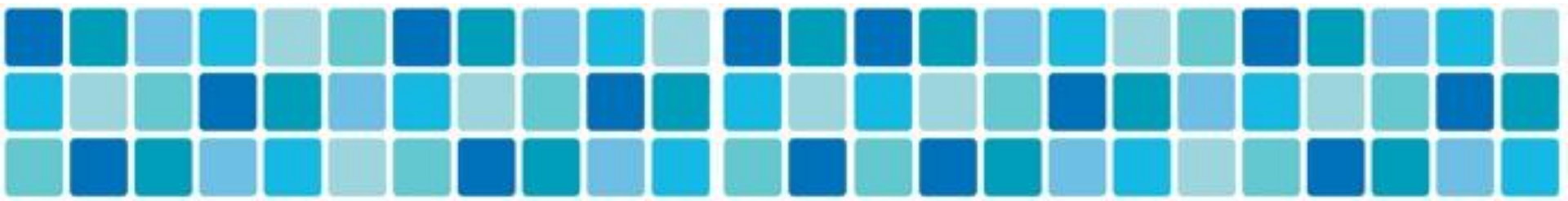


Ellyn Pollack, M.A., APR, Fellow PRSA,
Pool Safety Campaign Leader,
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission



When It Comes to Pool and Spa Safety, More Is Better

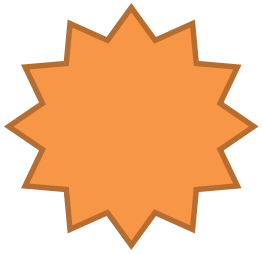
Simple Steps Save Lives



Today's Webinar

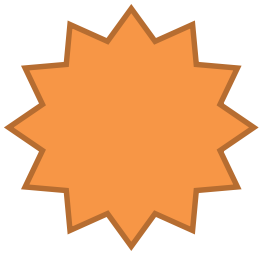
- We will discuss:
 - The simple *Pool Safely* steps to keep children safer in and around the water.
 - Guidelines for safety systems.
 - The *Pool Safely* song for kids by Laurie Berkner.
 - The Adventures of Splish and Splash, *Pool Safely's* first app.





Poll Question

- Do you have a pool at home?
 - Yes
 - No



Poll Question

- Have you visited a community pool this summer or do you plan to?
 - Yes
 - No

What is the First Step to *Pool Safely*?



2015
Pool simple steps
save lives
SAFELY
PLEDGE

En Español

TAKE THE *POOL SAFELY* PLEDGE
Take one minute to make sure your family is safer this year by pledging to *Pool Safely*.

Share this Pledge: [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [+](#)



KID PLEDGE



ADULT PLEDGE

You never know which safety step will save a life...until it does.



Take the first step and let's learn some more!



Pool Safely Step

LEARN TO SWIM

Learn to Swim

- Teach children to swim. Fatal and non-fatal drownings are eight times more likely to happen to kids who can't swim.



Pool Safely Step

MULTIPLE LAYERS OF PROTECTION

Fences

- The fence or other barrier should be 4-sided and at least 4 feet high.
- It should not have footholds or handholds that a child could use to climb.
- Vertical fence slats should be less than 4 inches apart to prevent a child from squeezing through.
- If the fence is chain link, then no part of the diamond-shaped opening should be larger than 1.75 inches.

Gates

- Fence gates should open out from the pool and should be self-closing and self-latching.
- The gate should be well maintained to close and latch easily.
- The latch should be out of a child's reach.
- The release mechanism for the gate should be at least 3 inches below the top of the gate on the side facing the pool.
- The gate should not allow for a young child to reach through the gate and release the latch.

Covers

- Keep pools or spas covered when they are not in use.
- Consider using a lockable safety cover on pools and spas.



Safety Covers

- A cover should withstand the weight of 2 adults and a child to allow a rescue if an individual falls onto the cover.
- A pool cover should also be able to be easily and swiftly removed from the water to respond to emergencies.

Alarms

- There are several types of alarms – door, pool and gate – that sound when something goes wrong around the pool.
- Adding alarms to your safe pool practices may save a life.



Alarms

- The alarm should sound for 30 seconds or more and be loud.
- The alarm sound should be distinct from other sounds in the house.
- The alarm should have an automatic reset feature.
- The alarm should have a switch that allows adults to temporarily deactivate the alarm and should be located out of reach of children.

Pool Safely Step

SUPERVISION

Be a Water Watcher

- Constant supervision is an important step to ensure safety in and around pools and spas.



Supervision

- Never leave a child unattended in or around the water.
- Always watch children closely around all bodies of water.
- If a child is missing, look for them in the pool or spa first.
- The designated Water Watcher should not be reading, texting or be distracted.
- Adults can take turns being Water Watchers.

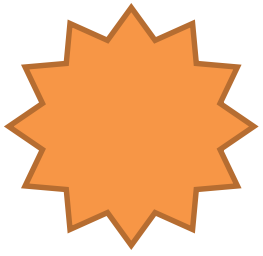
Pool Safely Step

SAFE DRAINS & VGB

The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act

- The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act (P&SS Act) was enacted by Congress and signed by President Bush on December 19, 2007.
- Designed to prevent the tragic and hidden hazard of drain entrapments and eviscerations in pools and spas; the law became effective on December 19, 2008.





Poll Question

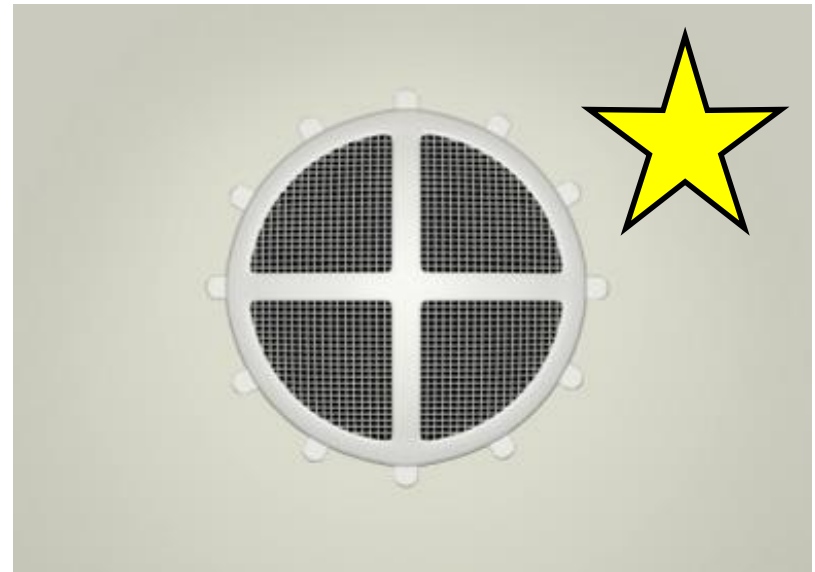
- Do you know what a “safe drain” looks like?
 - Yes
 - No

Safe Drains

- Pool and spa safety drain covers are an important safety step and are required by law in all public pools.



Flat Drain



Domed Drain

Drain Entrapments

- What can become entrapped?
 - Body: A body part, often the torso or bottom, covers a drain and can be held down by the intensity of the suction.
 - Hair: Long hair can be caught in a faulty drain cover.
 - Limbs: Arms, legs, feet or fingers can be lodged in a suction opening.
 - Mechanical: Jewelry, bathing suits or other materials can become entangled in a drain cover.

Drain Entrapments

- Turn off the pump immediately.
- Do not try to pull the person off the suction. Instead, insert fingers or a small object between the drain and the person's body to break the seal and then roll them off until they're free.
- Have a portable telephone close by to call for help.
- Understand the basics of life-saving so that you can assist in a pool emergency.

Pool Safely Step

LIFE-SAVING SKILLS

Learn CPR

- Learn CPR – it could save a life.



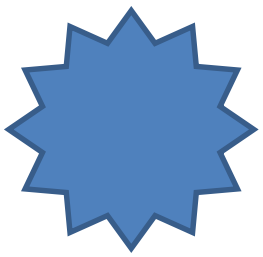
A Life Saving Checklist

- Does the pool have the appropriate equipment?
 - Has the pool been inspected?
 - Do they have appropriate drain covers?
 - Is life saving equipment nearby?
- Who are the Water Watchers?
 - Is there a life guard and staff to monitor the pool?
 - Are you monitoring your own child, not on the phone or reading?
- Learn and Practice Water Safety Skills
 - Do you and your children know how to swim?
 - Do you know CPR and is the staff certified?
 - Are you able to assist in an emergency?

Recap: *Pool Safely's* Simple Safety Steps

- Learn to swim and teach children to swim.
- Use multiple layers of protection like fences, covers, gates and alarms.
- Always designate a water watcher.
- Ensure drains are safe.
- Learn CPR and other life-saving skills.



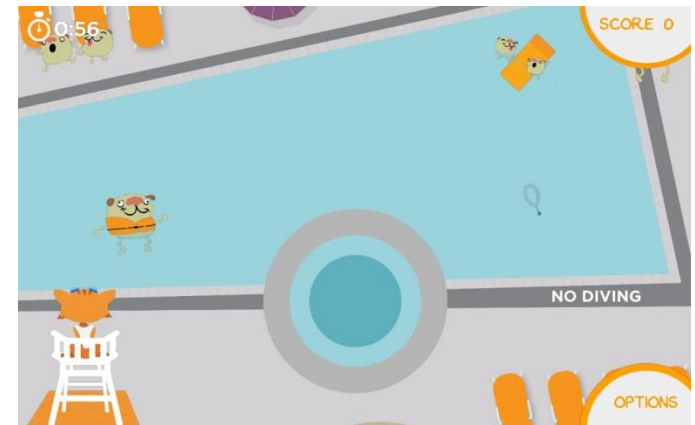


The New *Pool Safely* Song!



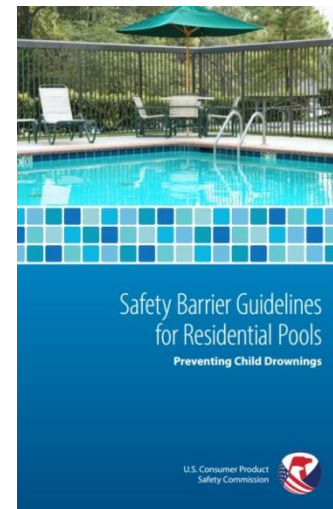
The Adventures of Splish and Splash

- The app is a game for children ages 7-14.
- The app helps children learn about the dos and don'ts of water safety.
- In this interactive game, Splash likes to have fun at the pool, but he doesn't always know what is safe.
- It is the children's job to pick out Splash's unsafe actions before moving on to the next level!




Resources

- Videos, brochures, tip cards and more all available on PoolSafely.Gov



Simple Water Safety Steps Can Save Lives

 Your greatest water safety assurance comes from adopting and practicing as many safety steps as possible. Adding an extra safety step around the water can make all the difference.
You can never know which safety step will save a life — until it does.

Stay Close, Be Alert and Watch

- Always watch your children and never leave them unattended
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings
- Have a phone close by at all times
- If a child is missing, check the pool first
- Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors

Learn and Practice Water Safety Skills

- Learn to swim
- Know how to perform CPR on children and adults
- Understand the basics of life saving so that you can assist in a pool emergency

Have the Appropriate Equipment

- Install a fence around the perimeter of the pool and spa of at least four feet in height
- Use self-closing and self-latching gates
- Ensure all pools and spas have compliant drain covers
- Install a door alarm from the house to the pool area
- Maintain pool and spa covers in working order
- Have life-saving equipment such as life rings or reaching poles available for use

Resources

- To take the *Pool Safely* Pledge:
 - www.poolsafely.gov/pledge
- To watch the *Pool Safely* song by Laurie Berkner:
 - <http://bit.ly/LBPSsong>
- To download the *Pool Safely* app on iPhone or Android:
 - <http://www.poolsafely.gov/app/>
- To order *Pool Safely* printed materials (in English and Spanish):
 - poolsafely@cpsc.gov
- To sign up for the *Pool Safely* email newsletter:
 - www.poolsafely.gov/signup.aspx
- To follow *Pool Safely* on Twitter:
 - <https://twitter.com/poolsafely>
- To follow *Pool Safely* on Flickr:
 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/poolsafely/>
- To contact *Pool Safely* Campaign Leader Ellyn Pollack:
 - epollack@cpsc.gov

You never know which safety step
will save a life – until it does.

To learn more, visit **PoolSafely.Gov**
or email poolsafely@cpsc.gov.



Thank you!



Thank you!

Please take a moment to complete our short evaluation:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L9W29XZ>

Contact Information

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