



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WATER SAFETY?

Hundreds of people drown each year in the US, including those who die in boating accidents and in swimming pools.

Summertime is a prime time for water-related injuries. Here are some quick tips on how to keep you and your loved ones safe in and around the water.



No Alcohol

Alcohol use is blamed in about a 1/3 of all drowning deaths tied to boating accidents. All 50 states have laws against drinking while boating.



Life Jackets

Children should wear life jackets, approved by the US Coast Guard, when they are on boats or near bodies of water. Water wings and other inflatable water toys are not substitutes for life jackets.



Boat Safety - Check

Check any equipment, the engine and your fuel supply. Know the weather forecast and keep an eye out for sudden changes that may mean a storm is brewing.



Never Leave Kids Alone

Most children who drown in pools had been out of sight for 5 minutes or less. Enclose your pool with a fence, wall or other barrier at least 4 feet tall. Keep a phone nearby to call 911 in an emergency.



Clear Water Doesn't Equal Safe Water

You should always check the depth of the body of water to see if it is adequate for diving. Jumping in feet first is much safer than diving.



Escaping An Ocean Current

Swim parallel to the shore until you are free of the outgoing current (also called a riptide). Pay attention to any warnings posted about water or beach conditions.



Buddy System and Water Craft

Using jet skis and other personal water craft? You should always travel in groups of 2 or 3 in case of an emergency.



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SOURCES: AMERICAN RED CROSS; THE STAYWELL COMPANY, LLC