City of Pembroke Pines

Water Safety & Drowning Prevention









Important Facts

- Drowning is the #1 leading cause of death among children ages 1- 4
- Florida is ranked highest in the United States for unintentional drownings among children ages 1-4
- 70% of child drowning incidents occur in public and private pools

Important Facts



- Drowning is the leading cause of death for children with autism from the age of 14 and younger.
- Distracted caregivers are the primary factor in child drowning incidents.
- Most drownings happen without a sound





Swim Safety Facts

- Water survival skill training and swim lessons drastically reduce the risk of drowning in children under 5 years old
- It is safe to start introducing babies to water when they are 6 months of age
- By their fourth birthday, most children are ready for swim lessons





Do Not Rely on Swim Aids

• Swim aids such as water wings or noodles are fun toys for kids, but they should never be used in place of a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal floatation device (PFD)















Layers of Protection

Know	Always know your surroundings, including possible drowning risks at home or when traveling
Ensure	Ensure a trusted caregiver always supervises young children
Leave	Never leave a child alone near water, even for a second
Assign	Assign a Water Watcher and use touch supervision
Don't assume	When a large group is present, don't assume someone is watching your child

Keep Safety in Mind



- Install and maintain a 4-foot pool fence and self-closing, self-latching gate and doors
- Secure and lock all doors, windows, and pet doors in your home that lead to your pool
- Install and routinely check door chimes and pool alarms



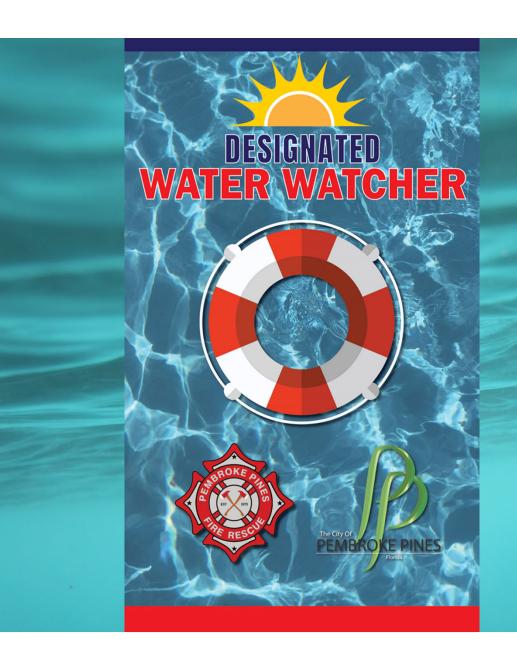


Pembroke Pines is Committed to Safety









SAFETY RULES



- When swimming in a public pool, always stay in areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Never leave a child unattended near water, and don't trust your child's life to another child.
- Make sure everyone in your family knows how to swim well.
- If you own a pool, make sure to have the proper safety barriers and alarms.
- Many children drown in pools when left out of sight; it only takes seconds to drown.

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