

SAFETY TIPS

1. Never leave a child alone or out of your eye-sight in or near the pool, spa or hot tub - not even for a second. **THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR CONSTANT ADULT SUPERVISION.**
2. Access to the pool, spa or hot tub should be limited by locked doors and/or gates whenever swimming or soaking cannot be supervised. A pool alarm which is capable of detecting a child entering the water, and gives an audible alarm poolside, and inside the house, provides an additional layer of protection.
3. Keep toys, particularly tricycles or wheel toys, away from the pool, spa and hot tub. A child playing with these could accidentally fall into the water.
4. Do not allow anyone, of any age, to swim without a “spotter” nearby. Examples of good safety behavior by adults are important for your children.

Schuyler County Emergency Management urges you to follow all manufacturer’s instructions and local codes when installing or modifying any pool, spa or hot tub.

WARNING: Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death of infants and children under the age of five. There is no substitute for competent adult supervision in the swimming pool environment.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

Protect your Family – Install a Pool Alarm

New York State has enacted a Pool Alarm law that went into effect on December 14, 2006. All swimming pools installed, constructed or substantially modified on or after that date must be equipped with an approved pool alarm. Under ASTM F2208 standards, the alarm must be capable of detecting a child entering the water, and an 85-plus-decibel warning must sound within 20 seconds at poolside and at another location on the premises – preferably inside the house.

While the law only requires an alarm for new and remodeled pools, we strongly urge all pool owners to install a pool alarm. The additional layer of protection provided by this relatively inexpensive device can make the difference between life and death. Consult with your pool professional about which approved pool alarm is right for you.

Schuyler County Emergency Management Office

Address: 106 Tenth Street, Unit 36
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Phone: 607-535-8200
E-mail: scemo@co.schuyler.ny.us
Web: www.schuylercounty.us/911E.htm
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SchuylerEMO
Twitter: www.twitter.com/SchuylerEMO



Is your
swimming pool
safe?

How to Protect Your Family at the
Pool This Summer



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR YOUR POOL, HOT TUB, OR SPA

Fencing

Purpose: To isolate the swimming pool by way of a minimum four-foot-high (48 inches) enclosure.

Types: Chain link, wooden picket (if non-climbable), ornamental. You must check local code.

Safety Covers

Purpose: An impenetrable covering that completely covers the pool, spa, or hot tub, blocking access to water.

Types: Meets ASTM F1346 Standard

Door Exit Alarms

Purpose: Warns parents or guardian when a child opens the door.

Types: Door announcer/chime, or home security system.

Self-closing/self-latching devices for doors, and latching devices for windows

Purpose- Keeps all doors and windows leading to the pool, spa, or hot tub area securely closed, limiting access by children.

Types: Hinge pin replacement, sliding glass door closer, or swing arm.

Fence Gate Alarms

Purpose: Sounds when fence gate is open.

Fence Gate Closer & Latch

Purpose: To close and latch fence gates securely, making a pool, spa, or hot tub inaccessible to a child. Type: Self-latching.

Pool Alarms

An alarm placed in the pool that sounds upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water.

Type: Surface water (wave motion), pressure waves (acoustic) or electronic monitoring system.

Child Alarms

Purpose: An alarm clipped on the child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water.

Types: Clip-on transmitter with outside and in-home receiver.



Know Your Requirements - Know The Law

For more information contact your local Code Enforcement Officer prior to the purchase, installation or modification of any pool.

Rope and Float Line

A rope and float line should be placed across the pool, alerting swimmers to the separation of the deep end from the shallow end of the pool.

Life Ring and Shepherd's Hook

These can be used to pull someone in trouble to safety. All rescue equipment should be placed near the pool in an easily accessible spot, and should be kept in good condition.

Posted Emergency Information

Post all emergency information, including warning signs, CPR instructions, and the emergency phone number "911", near the pool, spa, or hot tub.

Outside Telephone

Having a cordless or poolside telephone available means parents won't have to leave children unattended while they answer calls. It's also a good idea to have one handy to summon help, if needed.

Anti-Entrapment Drain Covers and Fittings

Current grates and covers help prevent body or hair entrapment. Make sure that drain covers meet the ANSI/ASME A112.19.8.M Standard. Safety doors should be installed in all pool cleaner wall suction lines. Pools, spas and hot tubs with drain covers that are broken, missing, or not adequately secured should not be used until they are properly repaired. Never allow children to play on or near drains, suction outlets or jets.