

# Pool of Knowledge



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## Resources for Pool Operators

The [Pool Safely](#) website has many helpful resources for industry professionals. Pool and spa operators can access information on requirements for public pools, customer safety, pool and spa safety equipment, and equipment recalls by clicking [here](#).



## Drowning Statistics from the CDC

Did you know that drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death worldwide? Sadly, the highest rate of drowning is among children. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released a report on drowning incidents in the United States during 2005 to 2009. An average of 3,880 people died each year during this time period. According to CDC, "children aged  $\leq 4$  years had the highest rates of both fatal and nonfatal drowning, and the death rate for males was approximately four times the rate for females." (Source: CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Vol. 61, No. 19)



If you have a small child or grandchild that you care for, please practice the [ABCs of water safety!](#) The article below also contains some helpful drowning prevention tips.

## Drowning is Silent

Drowning deaths are silent. There are no splashing sounds or warning sounds associated with a drowning incident. Remember the acronym SILENT to help prevent drownings and keep your family safe this summer.

**S - Swimming pools** in backyards account for over 50% of the drowning deaths of children 0-5 years.

**I - Install** alarms on house windows and doors leading to the pool area.

**L - Layers of protection** are necessary to help prevent drowning incidents. Examples of redundant layers of protection include gates, latches, fences, safety pool covers, alarms, throwing aids, rescue techniques, and active adult supervision.

**E - Eye.** Adults must constantly keep their eyes on children near or in any type of water. This includes pools, spas, ponds, toilets, buckets, and bathtubs.

**N - Never** leave a child alone near water. If a child is missing, check the pool first!

**T - Touch.** Designate an adult to be close enough to reach out and touch a child under 4 years of age while they



are being supervised in the water.

*This information was taken from the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Developmental Services, and the Drowning Prevention Foundation.*

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### **New Spanish Language Social Media Sites Launched**

The Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) has launched Facebook and Twitter pages en Español! All of the content posted on the English language social media sites will now also be posted in Spanish. The link for our Facebook page in Spanish is [www.facebook.com/sbehsEsp](http://www.facebook.com/sbehsEsp). The link for our Twitter page in Spanish is <https://twitter.com/sbehsEsp>.



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### **New Telephone Number for DEHS**

We now have a new toll-free number for DEHS! It is 1-800-442-2283. You can reach all of our offices (Rancho Cucamonga, Hesperia, San Bernardino, and San Bernardino Mosquito & Vector Control) by calling our new number. This single number replaces all previous telephone numbers, which have now been inactivated. If you call an old number, you will only reach a message giving you our new 800 number.



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### **Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter**

We are on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Join the conversation about pool safety, foodborne illness prevention, vector control and more. We now are on [Facebook en Español](#) and [Twitter en Español](#).

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*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 800-442-2283 or [Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov).*

**We appreciate the effort you make to  
protect the public's health in our County.**

