



DROWNING PREVENTION IS EASY!

The CPSC estimates that each year nearly 300 children younger than five drown in swimming pools and spas

More than 3,000 children that age go to hospital emergency rooms due to submersion injuries in pools and spas.

Supervision and Layers of Protection Around Pools and Spas Save Lives!



AVOID THE DRAIN:

Suction from a pool or spa's drain can be so powerful it can trap an adult underwater. Do not use a pool or spa if there are broken or missing drain covers. Ask your pool operator if your pool or spa's drains are compliant with the Pool and Spa Safety Act.

HAIR ENTANGLEMENT: Hair can get caught in a faulty drain cover

LIMBS: arms, legs, fingers can become lodged in a suction opening

BODY: any body part that can cover a drain can be held down by suction

EVISCERATION: sitting on a faulty drain can cause injuries or disembowelment

MECHANICAL: jewelry or bathing

suits can become entangled in a faulty drain cover

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN:

- Do not play or swim near drains or suction outlets, especially in spas and shallow pools.

- Never enter a pool or spa that has a loose, broken or missing drain cover.

If you see a broken or loose drain cover, immediately notify a lifeguard and the pool/spa manager.

A pool or spa with a broken, loose or missing drain cover should be closed immediately until repairs are made by a licensed professional. Children's public wading pools, other pools designed specifically for young children, and in-ground spas that have flat drain grates and single main drain systems pose

the greatest risk of entrapment.

BARRIERS:

CPSC strongly recommends that all residential pools or spas more than 24 inches deep have a 4-foot barrier, such as a fence with self-closing and self-latching gates. If the house is the fourth side of a barrier, secure doors with alarms that prevent children from wandering into the pool area. Doors & screens with direct pool access require audible alarms, and the alarm control is a minimum 54" above the ground.

A power safety cover (a motor powered barrier that can be placed over the water area) can be used when the pool is not in use.

SUPERVISION:

Never take your eyes off children in the water— not for a minute! Always designate a "pool watcher."



- Learn how to swim
- Teach children basic water safety tips
- Know how to respond in water

emergencies

- Learn CPR
- Keep rescue equipment and a phone next to the pool

DROWNING DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN IN POOLS & SPAS:

- Never leave children unattended in a bathroom, not even for a second.
- Keep bathroom doors closed & secured with latches on the outside.

- Bath rings are only aids for bathing children. **THEY ARE NOT FLOATION DEVICES.**

- Keep toilet lids closed & install safety latches.

- Empty buckets and containers immediately after use and store upside down out of reach of children.

- Consider removing the inside locks on bathroom doors.

For more information, contact us!

The Cathedral City Fire Dept.
32100 Desert Vista Road
Cathedral City
(760) 770-8200
www.cathedralcityfire.org

The Consumer Protection Safety Commission
(800) 638-2772 www.cpsc.gov
Riverside County Injury Prevention Services
3900 Sherman Drive, Riverside
(951) 358-7036 www.rccfc.org/programs.htm