

## Water Safety

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Water safety is a nationally relevant issue during summer due to the prevalence of social activities within the pool or beach. Extra caution and awareness are tools that are extremely important to use in order to prevent a tragedy such as drowning. According to a [2014 Red Cross survey](#), more than half of all Americans (54%) either cannot swim or do not have all the basic swimming skills. Alarming statistics of this kind are essential to understanding potential danger within fun summer activities, and learning water safety tips.

According to [WaterproofFL](#), the three most important factors to water safety are supervision, barriers, and emergency preparedness. Children and individuals who are not adept at swimming should always be supervised by an adult when they are in or around a pool. This may be the most important factor in preventing accidents; many deaths have occurred within the timespan of a few minutes that were taken to accomplish a household chore. The second factor to water safety, barriers, is successful in preventing access when there is no supervision. Barriers such as fences and locks around the pool are effective tools in water safety. The third factor, emergency preparedness, is vital to saving someone if an accident has occurred; this consists of CPR techniques and calling 911.

Water safety is simple to know, but sometimes difficult to practice. Through conversation and awareness, accidents are

avoided and water safety becomes a strengthened and applicable principle. Have fun and be safe during all your summer activities!