



# Pool Safety



## TIPS TO HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFE AROUND WATER

### DID YOU KNOW?

Drowning is the #1 killer for kids aged 1-4, #2 for kids 5-9, and #3 for kids 10-14. Most drowning and near drowning happen within 6 feet of the wall where children become disoriented. Caregivers are usually in the pool area, not more than a few feet away.

### WHAT PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS CAN DO

- Remove toys in or around the pool area when not in use.
- Appoint an official adult watcher to ensure children are supervised near the pool. Never leave children in or around the pool unattended.
- Stay up to date with the latest CPR techniques.
- Keep your pool and patio area well lit.
- Avoid alcohol when supervising children swimming.
- Be vigilant when supervising kids, stay off social media and your phone.
- Put up barriers around the pool or hot tub.
- Stay within reach of children in the water.
- Show children where they can safely enter and where it is too deep.
- Say no to floaties, kickboards, inflatable tubes, etc.-These give a false sense of security.



### WHAT CHILDREN CAN DO

- Never swim alone. Always have a buddy!
- Never dive into shallow or unknown waters.
- Don't run around the pool. Walk.
- Swim in lifeguard-supervised beaches and pools.
- Learn proper swimming and safety skills.
- Always enter the water feet first.
- Only jump in as far as you can swim back.





# Electrical Safety Around Water



## Electrical hazards exist in swimming pools, hot tubs, lakes, and ponds

Electric shock drowning (ESD) happens when marina or onboard electrical systems leak electric current into the water. The current then passes through the body, causing paralysis, and results in drowning.

### TIPS FOR SWIMMERS

- Never swim near a marina, dock or boatyard, or near a boat while it's running.
- Obey all "no swimming signs" on docks.
- Look out for underwater lights that are not working properly, flicker or work intermittently.
- If tingling occurs, immediately stop swimming in your current direction. Try and swim in a direction where you had not felt the tingling, Exit the water as quickly as possible and avoid using metal ladders or rails. Touching metal may increase the risk of shock.
- Do not swim before, during or after thunderstorms.

### TIPS FOR BOAT AND POOL OWNERS

- Avoid entering the water when launching or loading your boat. Docks or boats can leak electricity into the water causing water electrification.
- Each year, and after a major storm that affects the boat, have the boat's electrical system inspected by a qualified marine electrician.
- Know where your main breaker(s) are located on both the boat and the shore power source so you can respond quickly in case of an emergency.
- Have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) installed on the boat; use only portable GFCIs or shore power cords (including "Y" adapters) that are Marine Listed when using electricity near water. Test GFCIs monthly.
- Make sure that any overhead lines maintain the proper distance over a pool and other structures,
- If you are putting in a new pool or spa be sure the wiring is performed by an experienced electrician.
- Electrical appliances, equipment and cords should be kept at least 6 feet away from the water.

