

"OK CHILD" Injury Prevention Program Newsletter

Oklahoma City Fire Department
 University of Central Oklahoma
 Safe Kids Oklahoma



Water Safety in open water . .

Issue 8

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DROWNING DANGERS FOR KIDS

Spotlight on Open Water

Lakes • Ponds • Rivers • Oceans • Reservoirs • Retention Ponds • Quarries

CHILDHOOD DROWNING OVERALL

- 1,000 CHILDREN DROWNED IN 2016
- 7,000 MORE WENT TO ER
- 150 FAMILIES IMPACTED PER WEEK

MORE CHILDREN AND TEENS DROWN IN OPEN WATER THAN IN POOLS

- Open water: 43%
- Pools: 38%
- Bathtubs: 9%
- Other: 10%

OPEN WATER FATALITIES

BY AGE

- 0-4 yrs: 23%
- 5-9 yrs: 13%
- 10-14 yrs: 15%
- 15-19 yrs: 49%

BY GENDER

- 80% Male
- 20% Female

BY ETHNICITY (PER 1,000,000)

- White children (7.1)
- Black/African American children (13.7)
- American Indian/Alaskan Native children (17.3)

HIDDEN HAZARDS OF OPEN WATER

- Dangerous currents
- Sudden drop-offs
- Limited visibility
- Depth of water
- Rocks and vegetation
- Cold temperatures
- Difficult-to-judge distances

Tips to Keep Your Kids Safe

- Watch kids in and around water without being distracted.
- Teach kids how to swim in open water, which is different from swimming in a pool.
- Use a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket appropriate for the child's weight and water activity.
- Learn what to do in an emergency without putting yourself at risk for drowning.

For more information visit www.safekids.org

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How to properly fit life jackets?
 Click on above video

Firework Safety



Listen to NFL All-Pro Jason Pierre-Paul talk about the dangers of fireworks. Please click on above video.

Fireworks by the numbers:

Fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires per year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and 16,900 outside and other fires. These fires caused an average of three deaths, 40 civilian injuries, and an average of \$43 million in direct property damage.

In 2015, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 11,900 people for fireworks related injuries; 51% of those injuries were to the extremities and 41% were to the head. Children younger than 15 years of age accounted for one-quarter (26%) of the estimated 2015 injuries. These injury estimates were obtained or derived from the [Consumer Product Safety Commission's 2015 Fireworks Annual Report by Yongling Tu.](#)

Source: NFPA's Research, Data & Analytics Division



Tips for Using Fireworks More Safely

- Follow local laws.
- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks.
- Adults should supervise older children using fireworks.
- Never have any portion of your body directly over a firework while lighting.
- Keep a bucket of water or connected garden hose nearby for emergencies.

Source: Consumer Product Safety Commission



Leaving kids in **HOT** cars! Not a cool thing to do!!



Please click on above picture for video on how fast a car can “Heat Up”
(Safe Kids Worldwide)



ACT

1. Avoid heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving a child alone in a car, not even for a minute. And make sure to keep your car locked when you’re not inside so kids don’t get in on their own.

2. Create reminders. Keep a stuffed animal or other memento in your child’s car seat when it’s empty, and move it to the front seat as a visual reminder when your child is in the back seat. Or place and secure your phone, briefcase or purse in the backseat when traveling with your child.

3. Take action. If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Emergency personnel want you to call. They are trained to respond to these situations.



The Oklahoma Firefighters Burn Camp is a summer camp provided, free of charge, for children aged 6 to 16 that have suffered major burns or disfiguring injuries at any point in their lives requiring hospitalization.

If you know of a child burn survivor that would benefit from attending Burn Camp, please call (918) 857-6351 or email us at:

info@okffburencamp.org

This years camp dates are **August 8th through the 12th.**

Project Life 5k and 1 mile run

September 15, 2018

(Registration opening soon!)

