

Drowning is Quick and Quiet

Keep Kids Safe



- ☉ Actively supervise children in and around water. Stay where you can see, hear and reach kids in water. Avoid talking on the phone, preparing a meal, reading and other distractions.
- ☉ A pool or spa should be surrounded on all four sides by a fence at least five feet high with gates that close and latch automatically.
- ☉ A pool or spa should be equipped with an anti-entrapment drain cover and a safety vacuum release system to prevent children from being caught in the suction of the drain.
- ☉ Don't leave toys in or near the pool, where they could attract unsupervised kids.
- ☉ Enroll your kids in swimming lessons around age 4, but don't assume swimming lessons make your child immune to drowning. There is no substitute for active supervision.
- ☉ Don't rely on inflatable swimming toys such as "water wings" and noodles. If your child can't swim, stay within an arm's reach.
- ☉ Kiddie pools should be emptied and stored out of reach when not in use.
- ☉ Learn infant and child CPR. In less than two hours, you can learn effective interventions that can give a fighting chance to a child whose breathing and heartbeat have stopped.
- ☉ Keep rescue equipment, a phone and emergency numbers by the pool.
- ☉ Adults can take turns serving as the designated "Water Watcher," paying undivided attention to children that are in or near the water.
- ☉ Kids who survive a near-drowning may have brain damage, and after four to six minutes under water – the damage is usually irreversible.

These guidelines apply to inflatable and portable pools, not just in-ground pools. A child can drown in just an inch of water. **For more information, call 770-219-8095 or visit www.safekidsgainesvillehall.org.**