

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

Summer marks the time for outdoor fun and activities. Do you know how to keep your child safe? Use these suggestions to protect your child from harm.

Water safety tips:

- Never leave your young child alone near water.
- Teach your child to always swim with a buddy.
- Allow your young child to only swim in areas with a lifeguard.
- Secure your home pool with appropriate barriers.
- Check the water if your child is missing.
- Teach your child how to swim.

Fireworks safety tips:

- Be aware that fireworks can result in burns, blindness, and death.
- Be responsible with sparklers, which can reach temperatures above 1000 degrees Fahrenheit and can burn users and bystanders.
- Attend community displays run by professionals instead of using fireworks at home.
- For bottle rockets, stand at least 50 feet or further away from the device before it blasts off. Stand 500 feet away before larger rockets or launched fireworks explode.

Bug Safety tips:

- Apply insect repellent.
- Never use scented soaps and hair sprays on your child.
- Avoid stagnant pools of water and blooming gardens.
- Eliminate standing water in your yard. Dump any buckets or empty flowerpots.
- Fix holes in screens to keep bugs out.
- Avoid dressing your child in bright colors or flowery prints, which can attract insects.
- Remove a stinger by gently scraping it with your fingernail or a credit card.
- Wear loose fitting, long sleeves in a wooded area.

Bicycle Safety:

- Require your child to wear a snug helmet at all times.
- Look for a helmet that meets the the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) bicycle helmet standards.

- Allow your child to ride a 2-wheeled bike without training wheels only when he or she feels ready.
- Get your child properly fitted when shopping for a new bike. Never buy a bike he or she will “grow into.” That’s dangerous.



All-terrain Vehicles Safety:

- Prohibit children too young to hold a driver’s license from operating or riding off-road vehicles. Three out of 10 ATV-related deaths and emergency room-treated injuries involve children.
- Don’t allow your child to ride as a passenger. Most ATVs are designed to carry just the driver. Passengers are frequently injured.
- Require your child to wear helmets, eye guards, sturdy shoes and clothing that is protective and reflective.

Summer allows your child to pursue outdoor adventures and make memories. Keep fun activities safe by requiring your son or daughter to follow the safety tips above.