

POOL SAFETY

Drowning can happen so quickly. Drowning incidents annually claim the lives of nearly 400 children younger than 5 years of age. There is no substitute for adult supervision. However, there are some safety tips to help secure your area and make it safer.

- Install approved alarms on gates, doors and windows that adjoin the pool area.
- Cover the pool with a secured pool cover when not in use.
- Install a self-latching and self-closing gate that leads to the pool area.
- Install a fence that is minimum 4-foot in height. If the fence is wrought iron, the openings shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere. For more information on fencing requirements check out the City of Plano Building Inspections website www.buildinginspections.org
- Teach your child how to swim.
- Never let a child have access to the pool area without an adult present.
- Keep a phone poolside in case of emergency
- Never leave toys in the pool area. They might entice young children to the water.
- Access to an aboveground pool should be secured and locked or removed, when the pool is not in use.
- Secure patio furniture that could be used to climb into the pool area.
- Instruct baby sitters about pool safety and the use of alarms, door latches and gates.
- To prevent entrapment, have a professional inspect the drain suction fittings and covers on your pool and spa to be sure that they meet current safety standards.
- Never leave a child unattended.
- Never swim alone.
- Whenever infants or toddlers are in or near water, an adult should be within arm's length
- Parents should teach older children the dangers of jumping and diving into water
- Learn CPR

For additional information go to <http://poolsafetynetwork.org/>