WATER SAFETY & DROWNING PREVENTION

Drowning...
... is the #1 cause of unintentional injury death for children ages 1-4 and #2 for ages 5-9 (CDC, 2017).
... doesn’t only happen in pools. The ocean, lakes, rivers, and even tubs, toilets and buckets are also risks.
... can affect older children too. Open water drownings (ocean, lakes, rivers, etc.) account for more deaths than pools, and are the main cause of drowning death for teens age 15-19.

Do...
- Use gates, latches, covers, or fences on or around pools.
- Use pool and door alarms.
- Teach ALL children how to swim.
- Educate everyone on drowning prevention and rescue techniques.
- Implement a Water Watcher system.
- Keep flotation aides on hand.
- Use Coast Guard approved life vests.
- ALWAYS have adult supervision so that children are NEVER left alone around water.

Don’t...
- Don’t get distracted by your phone.
- Don’t rely on a flotation device.
- Don’t store toys or floats in the pool where they can attract children.

TIP: If a child is missing, check all areas of water immediately!

Visit Ventura County Public Health: http://www.vchca.org/drowning-prevention