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Swimmer management is important to aquatic safety. An article in Aquatics International [magazine](#) by Tommy Berretz of Texas Aquatic Enterprises Inc. (TAE) discusses his firm's position on swimmer management in outlining their use of a "Child Safety Policy". TAE follows the lead of others in the aquatic field by recommending swimmer ability testing and implementing management practices based on swimmer ability. Drowning continues to be a leading cause of accidental death among youth. Aquatic managers need to implement a number of strategies, including swimmer management, to strengthen aquatic safety at pools and waterfronts. Read more [HERE](#). Safe-Wise Consulting continues to encourage aquatic facilities and venues to implement safety practices such as [Swim Testing Procedures](#) and practices for the [Management of Group Swimming](#). Additional aquatic safety information is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Part of fire prevention and control is the proper storage of flammables. Flammable and combustible liquids come in many forms. They can be hazardous because they may be easily ignited, burn intensely, or have a rapid rate of flame spread. Flammable and combustible liquids have similarities but they also possess different characteristics and can act differently when exposed to a heat source. General information on flammable and combustible liquid properties and storage is listed in the Safe-Wise Consulting resource "*Considerations for the Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids*". This information is based national regulations or guidelines from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) and from the National Fire Protection Association ([NFPA](#)). Additional information may be obtained through local fire officials. Download the resource [HERE](#).

Springtime weather means the start of outdoor grilling season. Outdoor events and programs often mean that nonprofit organization staff is "working the grill". While some staff members may be safety conscious it should not be a foregone conclusion they are prepared for the potential pitfalls of gas grills; a little training and orientation goes a long way in preventing grilling incidents. LP gas/liquid propane and natural gas are flammable. Many accidents occur after the grill has been unused over a period of time or after a grill's LP gas container has been refilled and reattached. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) suggests that before starting the grill there are several safety precautions to keep in mind. The CPSC has published [Gas Grill Safety Guidelines](#) to provide safety education to grill users. By following these guidelines staff will help to prevent injuries and possible gas explosions or fires. For those "old school" grillers using charcoal the National Fire Protection Association has published [Grilling Safety Tips](#). Additional program safety and fire prevention information is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Proper preparation prevents poor performance. This age-old axiom holds true for emergency planning. Learning through the experience of others can be useful as camp programs review and develop emergency protocols for the upcoming summer season. The American Camp Association's ([ACA](#)) [severe weather resource page](#) is a good place to start when creating a useful emergency plan for your camp. Additional emergency planning and camp program resources are available from the ACA and the Safe-Wise Consulting [Online Resource Library](#).

Did you see this in the last E-news:

Preparations for wildfire season can start now. Every year there are more organizations at risk as wildfires burn across an increasing number of areas in the US. The National Fire Protection Association ([NFPA](#)) has materials that can help organizations and individual prepare for wildfire season. Additional information about emergency preparedness and wildfire safety is also available from the Fire Adapted Communities [Website](#) and through the [Ready, Set, Go! Program](#). Safe-Wise Consulting has prepared [Considerations for Wildfire Emergencies](#) that is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Tick season is coming. Normal tick season lasts from mid-April through August in parts of the US. Ticks may be active all year in some regions with warmer weather. Tick-borne pathogens can be passed to humans by the bite of infected ticks. Some of the most common tick-borne diseases in the US include: Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness and Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever. [Lyme disease](#) is the most commonly reported vectorborne illness in the US according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)). Ticks usually must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before an illness such as Lyme disease can be transmitted. Outdoor workers are at risk of exposure to tick-borne diseases if they work at sites with woods, bushes, high grass, or leaf litter. Outdoor workers in most regions of the US should be extra careful to protect themselves in the spring, summer, and fall when ticks are most active. The good news is that you can take steps to reduce your risk of being bitten by an infected tick. Read more [HERE](#) for prevention information. Other resources include this [curriculum for educating youth](#) and handouts such as [these](#).

This Month's Topics:

Swimmer Management
Fire Prevention
Grilling Safety
Emergency Planning for Camp
Wildfire Planning
Tick Season