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Keep playgrounds fun with SUPER vision. Every day at the playground can be fun because of active supervision and some basic safety tips. Providing a safe and age-appropriate playground is only part of the formula for preventing accidents and injuries. Shock-absorbing surfaces such as rubber, synthetic turf, sand, pea gravel, wood chips or mulch will help reduce the likelihood of injuries from falls. Active supervision by trained staff will help prevent many other issues. Playground supervision is as important as being a lifeguard around the pool. Many playground incidents, from simple accidents to behavioral issues, can be prevented when staff are engaged in providing SUPER vision on the playground. Safe Kids Worldwide (SFW) provides two good resources to help communicate practices to your staff: Playground Safety Tips and Childhood Injury Fact Sheet. The National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) provides a Staff Training Video that can help reinforce good playground practices. More information is available from the Online Resource Library including the Handbook for Public Playground Safety.

Save the date! The 2016 Risk Summit will be held from September 18 – 20, 2016 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Chicago. This two and a half day conference is ideal for nonprofit leaders who want to broaden their perspective on risk, learn practical strategies for identifying and managing risk, and bring risk resources and knowhow back to their mission-driven organizations. If you're interested in positioning the risk management function to truly fortify your mission and navigate around or through the "what ifs" of the nonprofit world, you won't want to miss this event. Read more HERE.

Defensive driving can save lives, time, and money according to James Solomon from the National Safety Council (NSC). Despite adverse conditions around you and the actions of others Solomon suggests that a defensive driver will never put themselves or anyone else in any kind of danger. Good and well-trained defensive drivers practice correct legal driving techniques at all times. A defensive driver is a safe driver, and that is especially important for passengers and organizations. Drivers need to know how to properly handle a vehicle, and they need to have sound judgment when presented with road obstacles or the recklessness of other drivers. Defensive driving behaviors can be molded through proper supervision, good training and regular review. Read more HERE. Additional information about transportation safety is available in the Online Resource Library and from Fleet Alert Online Magazine.

Your emergency responders should know about DNR orders. More so, your organization needs to plan for how your staff will respond when confronted with such a request. Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders allow individuals to refuse unwanted resuscitation attempts and ensure that patients' rights are honored. While traditionally these were in more regular use in hospitals and nursing homes, most states now have programs that enable individuals to have DNRs honored outside a medical facility and are currently part of EMS systems. Organizations should plan ahead and approach the development and implementation of guidelines as part of their emergency response plans. Consider involving professionals, volunteers and members from your communities in the development of your guidelines. Special consideration must be made for your state's law, the community EMS practices and the personal sensitivity of this issue. Find the rules for your state HERE. Sample guidelines are available in the Online Resource Library.

Did you see this in the last E-news:

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.

This Month's Topics:

Playground Safety Risk Summit Defensive Driving DNR Orders Swimmer Management Fire Prevention