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Informational posters for pools and aquatic facilities are available from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC). The CDC has announced that their new [Healthy Swimming brochures](#) are now available for FREE. Healthy swimming information will help to avoid waterborne illness outbreaks at your pool. [Pool Chemical Safety Posters](#) are also available and will remind staff the proper procedures when handling pool chemicals. Read more [HERE](#).

Workplace violence risks should not be ignored. The notion of “it cannot happen here” is outdated. Statistics show that there are more incidents and the occasional shoving match has turned into acts of greater violence. In a recent article from [Property Casualty 360](#) the author offers three tips for making employee safety a top priority at your organization. These tips include: encourage employees to speak up; utilizing your safety committee; and behavioral-based interviewing. There is no magic formula for preventing workplace violence but these three tips can help to mitigate some of the dangers. Read more [HERE](#).

Safety breaks at pools can help prevent aquatic incidents. Implementing hourly break periods (5-10 minutes) during recreation swims is encouraged by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to help reduce fecal accidents and incidence of recreational water illnesses (RWIs) by allowing time for youth to use restrooms. During these breaks the entire pool is cleared of swimmers for the rest period. These breaks can also help maintain lifeguard alertness by giving guards time to regroup, refresh and rotate positions. Other benefits include encouraging all staff and swimmers at outdoor pools to use the time to hydrate, apply sunscreen and for groups to ensure all members are accounted for. More information on summer pool safety is available [HERE](#).

Summer weather and high daytime temperatures are here. Staff, volunteers and summer program participants need to know how to prevent health problems caused by high temperatures. Organizations should provide heat stress training to staff and supervisors. Everyone should keep the following precautions in mind when spending time outdoor during daytime hours: keep hydrated (drink a glass of [water](#) every 15 to 30 minutes to prevent overheating, take breaks to cool down (at least a 10- or 15-minute break every two hours) and remember to adapt your pace to the weather. Read more [HERE](#). Also have staff check out [OSHA's Heat Safety Tool mobile app](#) to calculate the Heat Index for your location and get reminders about how to prevent heat illness every day.

Slips, trips and falls are among the leading types of accidents for many programs and organizations. They can account for a large portion of general liability claims and the majority of workers compensation costs. Slips are primarily caused by a slippery surface and can be compounded by wearing the wrong footwear. Tripping often happens where surfaces transition or change elevation. While these types of accidents are common, they can be prevented through training, good housekeeping, signage and care. Safe-Wise Consulting has prepared a [tip sheet](#) that can help your organization prevent these common injuries.

Did you see this in the last E-news:

Is your aquatic facility ready for summer? The busy summer swim season will soon be upon us and it's time for all aquatic leaders to be alert and prepared by orienting and regularly training seasonal lifeguard staff. Safe-Wise has again updated our annual summer aquatics preparation resource in order to help aquatic professionals prepare for a safe and enjoyable summer. Prepare for the summer cautiously and ensure that lifeguards are well prepared and vigilant with effective practices and procedures. Leaders must recognize that many youth who visit their pools may not have adequate swimming skills and should work to eliminate the risk of drowning for these children by swim-testing all swimmers, requiring specific protections for non-swimmers and offering swim instruction when possible. Read more [HERE](#).

What are the effects of the gender identity debate on your organization?

The debate about gender identity and who has the right to access which bathroom could be the next big issue facing the aquatics industry. Dana Robinson writes about how bathroom access has once again become a topic for political debate in an article from Aquatics International magazine ([AI](#)). Robinson writes: "For the first time since the civil rights movement of the 1950-60s, the issue of bathroom/locker room access has become a topic for political debate. This time, the discussion is not centered on skin color, but gender identity." Many organizations have already put in place practices to manage this topic. However opinions and regulations are changing. Robinson explores the topic in a three-part series of articles. She states: "The issue at hand is their (an individual's) ability to use the facilities that align with that gender. Certain states have wrestled with laws that address this issue, with some falling on the side of access and the others against. The issue also has generated several court cases initiated by both sides of the argument. The debate will continue and if your facility has not discussed how to respond you may be behind the times. Read more [HERE](#).

This Month's Topics:

Aquatic Information Posters

Preventing Workplace Violence

Aquatic Safety Breaks

Warm Weather Safety

Preventing Slips, Trips & Falls

Summer Aquatic Safety

Gender Identity Policies