

November 2011 | Volume 5 Issue 11.2

Implementing a swim test policy is an effective way to enhance safety at your facility as outline in [Aquatics International magazine](#). The main objective of swim testing is to identify swimming ability so nonswimmers can be kept out of high-risk areas. Upon identification, properly trained lifeguards can provide nonswimmers with tools to help provide for their safety in the water. This may include providing life jackets for use while they are in the pool, or by requiring their guardians to maintain touch supervision with them at all times. Read more [HERE](#) or look to the Online Resource Library for [more](#).

Now is the time to prepare for the New Year's resolution rush. Many facilities will see a significant increase in use due to the winter months and New Year's resolutions. While much of the increase in use may be attributed to members becoming more active; some can be attributed to new members or guests using the facilities. Taking the time to prepare can help prevent issues. Read more [HERE](#).

Saunas are common in many facilities but must be managed well. Units must be properly maintained and users should be informed of safe use guidelines. Because of the frequency of incidents, fire prevention practices are essential for preventing property damage. Read more [HERE](#) or visit the Online Resource Library for [more](#).

Planning on how to survive a crisis is always in season according to Melanie Lockwood Herman from the [Nonprofit Risk Management Center](#). A common element of many crisis events—its appearance with little or no warning—offers a reminder that there is no true “season” for preparation. Effective nonprofit leaders must be vigilant and diligent from the beginning of the year to the very end. Herman invites leaders to reflect on your preparation to survive a crisis that may threaten your vital mission. Read more [HERE](#).

Consistently enforcing appropriate behavior can encourage a positive environment during open-use times at recreational facilities. Enforcement of gymnasium behavior policies can occur in several ways according to a recent article in [Athletic Business magazine](#). Facilities where a sign-in desk or other checkpoint area is located near the gym and provides an unobstructed view of activities find enforcement to be easier. The article also discusses additional practices such as: keeping safety in mind with staff, utilizing satisfaction surveys, implementing zero-tolerance policies and communicating proper behavior to users. Read more [HERE](#).

This Month's Topics:

Swim testing

New Year's Rush

Managing Saunas

Crisis Management Preparation

Creating a Positive Open-use Environment