

March 2011 | Volume 5 Issue 3.1

Protecting swimmers and reducing risk are some of the topics discussed in *The Right Safeguards*, a recent article from [Recreation Management magazine](#). Author Wynn St. Clair discusses how creating an inviting aquatic program is serious business because no swimming facility—regardless of its thrilling diversions and features—can survive without a meaningful safety plan. In addition to protecting lives, a safety-minded approach minimizes liability risks, reduces operation disruptions and encourages patronage. Read more [HERE](#).

Use of ladders can be a common cause for staff injuries. Falls from portable ladders are one of the leading causes of occupational fatalities and injuries according to the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)). Accidents occur frequently in many types of organizations and industries. Some common reasons for ladder accidents include lack of training, use of defective ladders, failure to properly inspect equipment, use of an improper ladder for the job, over-reaching and improper set up or securing of ladders. More information about ladder safety is available in the [Online Resource Library](#) and from [OSHA](#).

A new edition of *Risk Management Essentials* is now available from the Nonprofit Risk Management Center. The brand-new issue features articles that discuss taking a comprehensive view of the risks facing your nonprofit and a process for ensuring that your nonprofit's fiscal health. Read more [HERE](#).

Technology risk and security continue to be issues for businesses around the globe. Nonprofits are not immune to these risks. The top five computer security risks according to [PC magazine](#) are: *Humans* including users, errors, malicious activities and IT problems; *Malware* from various sources; *Vulnerabilities* in network security and applications; *Mobile Devices* including laptops, smart-phones and applications; and finally *Poor "Cloud" computing security*. These may not all effect your organization's operations but there are other trends to be aware of. Read more [HERE](#).

Unsafe Breath Holding Practices is the title of an Aquatics Safety and Risk Education Fact Sheet now available from YMCA of the USA. This latest fact sheet focuses on unsafe breath holding practices. The fact sheet provides an understanding and clarification of what lifeguards should know about breath holding techniques and practices in order to prevent injury. The fact sheet is available on the aquatics page of [YMCAexchange](#).

Choosing preparation over panic is what Melanie Lockwood Herman from the Nonprofit Risk Management Center discusses in her recent e-news article. Herman writes “At the Center we have observed that fear of how things will turn out causes some nonprofit leaders to worry or even panic while inspiring others to prepare. Rather than trying to forecast or anticipate exactly how things will turn out, author Randy Park reminds leaders to prepare for alternate futures.” Read more [HERE](#).

YMCA of the USA recently posted a draft of the revised YMCA USA Aquatic Safety Guidelines for public review and comment. Public comment will be available through March 22, 2011, which is a 30-day period following initial posting to [YMCAexchange](#). The public comment period provides an opportunity for aquatic safety stakeholders within the YMCA movement to review the draft guidelines and provide comments for consideration to the final document. Once the public comment period is closed and appropriate modifications are made, the final document will be published. Go [HERE](#) to review the draft Aquatic Safety Guidelines.

This Month's Topics:

Aquatic Risk Management

Ladder Safety

Risk Management Newsletter

Technology Risk Management

Breath-holding Alert

Choosing Preparation over Panic

YMCA Aquatic Safety Guidelines