

October 2012 | Volume 6 Issue 10.1

A comprehensive risk management policy has layers. Melanie Herman from the Nonprofit Risk Management Center discusses this idea in a thought provoking article in their recent E-news. Herman discusses her recent work with an organization's youth protection policy and how the policy begins with a statement about the organization's intent and continues with references to best practices. She then goes on to discuss the layers of screening that make for strong prevention practices. Read more HERE.

A waiver kept a Baseball School from being tagged with liability. The Minnesota Baseball Instructional School operates summer baseball camps on the campus of the University of Minnesota. In June 2005, one of the participants, T.J. (as a minor, his name was not released), sustained a permanent eye injury when he was struck by a woodchip thrown by another participant. The injury happened not on a baseball field, but in a campus courtyard, after lunch. As a result of T.J.'s injury, his father filed a claim of negligence against the instructional school on behalf of his minor son. In its defense, the school argued that an exculpatory clause contained in the camp's registration materials insulated it from liability. The district court agreed and granted summary judgment. Read more (from Athletic Business Magazine) HERE.

Regulations are changing for pool operations. States have been changing regulations in regard to pool operations and aquatic safety in 2012. It is important for operators to keep aware of proposed and pending changes. In 2012 a number of changes have gone into effect including: Florida and South Carolina, Minnesota and Missouri, Arkansas, California, Maryland, and Nevada, and Massachusetts. In addition to these changes, the Model Aquatic Health Code from the federal government continues to move forward. Aquatic leaders can keep apprised of proposed and pending changes by keeping in contact with their state officials, following updates in Aquatics International magazine, through the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals and through other sources. For more information on your State's "pool code" follow links to information HERE.

October is National Fire Prevention Month and is a great time to make fire prevention a topic all around your organization. Safety training refreshers for staff, emergency procedure review, exit route planning, activities for children and emergency drills can be tied into the theme and strengthen your facility's level of preparedness. For more information on fire prevention activity ideas contact your local fire department to foster a strong relationship or look HERE.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) provides organizations with safety information in the [*Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respiratory Protection Standard*](#). The resource is intended to help small businesses protect workers from respiratory hazards. The guide, directed at businesses with fewer than 250 workers, explains how to comply with OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard. OSHA's [Respiratory Protection Web page](#) includes hazard alerts and training materials. In addition, OSHA provides assistance to small businesses through the free [On-site Consultation Service](#). Employers with fewer than 250 workers can call 1-800-321-OSHA to request this service, free of charge, to help identify and correct hazards, as well as improve comprehensive safety and health programs. Consultation services are separate from enforcement activities and do not result in penalties or citations.

The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) is important. PPE protects many staff on a daily basis as they perform their job functions. Eye and hearing protection, gloves, footwear, face shields, ventilators and other devices can help keep staff safe and prevent injuries. Not only is it good practice, but in most instances it is the law. So why do staff not use PPE all the time? There are many reasons for this. [Tips for Encouraging the Use of PPE](#) has been posted in the Online Library to help you get your staff to think safety... all the time.

This Month's Topics:

Risk management Policy
More on Waivers
Pool Regulations Change
Fire Prevention
Respiratory Protection
Use of Personal Protective Equipment