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Here's a Tale of Two Hands from Gary Forster. Most camps still aren't taking the Norovirus threat seriously. And several *dozen* camps will again close for a session or more this summer as a result. This is all because we don't have kids wash or sterilize their hands before they eat. Please read this simple factsheet on [Norovirus](#) from the Centers for Disease Control ([CDC](#)) and remember to get everyone to wash their hands before every meal. Read more from Gary [HERE](#).

Lifeguards must remain vigilant and alert at all times. At no time is this more important than in the busy summer swim season. Supervisors must support effective guarding by ensuring that schedules and facilities allow for appropriate breaks, adequate shade and plenty of water for hydration. Taking time at a staff meeting to review the [Lifeguard Pledge](#) is a good mid-summer activity that will remind Guards of their important duty.

Preventing Bullying at Camp is the job of every staff member. Take a mid-summer moment to remind staff that they need to discuss camper rules and role model the behavior in these rules. Let campers know that bullying is unacceptable and won't be tolerated. Bullying usually occurs in places when counselors are not around, so it is important to make bullying a regular topic of discussion with your campers. More information can be found in the [Bullying Prevention Tip Sheet for Camp Staff](#) from the [American Camp Association](#).

"Remember your training" is one of the reminders Safe-Wise provides camp staff during their training sessions. Directors can help staff do this by conducting regular drills during each week of the summer. Reviewing practices and policies at weekly staff meetings can also help encourage the correct behaviors. Camp staff training is an intense time with a lot of information being presented. Help staff remember these important practices through regular review and encouragement.

Slips, trips and falls are among the leading types of accidents for many businesses. They can account for many 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. 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.

Flip flops are an extremely popular style of footwear for many nonprofit's staff members. However, not only can they be considered an unprofessional form of workplace footwear; they also carry a more serious risk. This style of shoe is associated with a number of problems, injuries and accidents. The American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons ([ACFAS](#)) reports that flip-flops are linked to a growing number of heel problems among teens and young adults. Unlike sturdy shoes, flip-flops aren't good for extensive walking because they offer no arch support, heel cushioning, or shock absorption. Wearers can suffer foot pain due to lack of arch support, tendinitis, and even sprained ankles if they trip. Because they offer little protection, wearers are at greater risk for stubbed toes, glass cuts, puncture wounds, or having a heavy object dropped on the foot. Flip-flops can also impair a driver's control if they come off the foot and lodge under the brake or gas pedal, according to the American Automobile Association ([AAA](#)). Organizations should consider when and where this and other style of footwear are appropriate. Flip-flops are most likely only appropriate in wet areas and when not worn for extended periods of time. Appropriate footwear can help staff to be more comfortable, perform their responsibilities more effectively and of course protect them from injury. Sturdy shoes should be required for most positions and safety shoes or boots are appropriate for some specialized job functions. By monitoring the attire and footwear of employees and volunteers, organizations can help control accidents, slips and falls and other injuries. More staff safety information is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

This Month's Topics:

- Health Practices
- Lifeguard Vigilance
- Preventing Bullying
- Encouraging Good Practices
- Slips and Falls
- Proper Footwear
- Beach Swimming Safety