

November 2013 | Volume 7 Issue 11.1

There is no single practice that will protect all youth from child abuse. Safe-Wise Consulting recently updated its Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Checklist. The [CAP Checklist](#) is a brief questionnaire that will help assess your organization's prevention efforts. By taking a few moments to complete the Checklist your organization can begin to evaluate your efforts and identify areas for strengthening procedures. But remember that even if your organization scores well in this quick evaluation there may be more that needs to be done. Preventing abuse is everyone's responsibility. Safe-wise Consulting is a leader in developing sound practices for organizations and protecting youth. More information on Child Abuse Prevention and Youth Protection is available from [Safe-Wise Consulting](#) and in our [Online Resource Library](#). The prevention of child abuse is a key risk management issue for all youth serving organizations and protecting youth is at the core of what we do.

How aquatics facilities can limit liability is discussed by Gregory Anderson in a recent article from [Aquatics International Magazine](#) called *The Case of the Invisible Swimmer*. Anderson writes: "It's 15 minutes into practice for this nationally certified swim team when the alarm sounds, indicating that a Florida afternoon thunderstorm is now looming overhead requiring an "All out of the water" call from the lifeguard. This is a quality program, run by an experienced coach. The fact that they have a separate lifeguard instead of just an additional assistant coach indicates that the pool managers understand safety standards." Read more [HERE](#).

More than 250,000 Americans die from sudden cardiac arrest each year. According to medical experts, the key to survival is timely initiation of a "chain of survival", including CPR. In addition to CPR an automated external defibrillator (AED) has become an important rescue tool. Trained non-medical personnel can use an AED to treat a person in cardiac arrest. The American Heart Association notes that at least 20,000 lives could be saved annually by prompt use of AEDs. With broad deployment of AEDs among trained responders it is estimated that as many as 50,000 deaths due to sudden cardiac arrest could be prevented each year. Many states now require AEDS in institutions such as schools, aquatic centers and fitness facilities. Search for laws in your state [HERE](#).

Protecting youth online is an important part of abuse prevention education. Several organizations including the Boy's and Girl's Clubs of America ([BGCA](#)) and Boy Scouts of America ([BSA](#)) and teamed up with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children ([NCMEC](#)) to provide resources for online protection strategies to parents, youth and leaders. Visit [NetSmartz](#) and [NSTeens](#) Websites for more information.

Summer camp sued over Lyme Disease. A Connecticut summer camp is being sued for \$41.7 million over a Lyme disease case involving a camper from 2011. According to the Associated Press, the camp is being sued by the parents of a camper, who accuse the camp of failing to monitor and protect their daughter from the threat of the tick-borne disease. The camper, who was 14 when she attended the camp, now “suffers debilitating injuries including memory loss and migratory joint, muscle and nerve pain” as well as “burning sensations in her skin, arthritis, muscle spasms, nausea, dizziness and difficulty breathing” according to her family’s attorney. The suit alleges that the camper was “never told to wear tick protective clothing nor was she consistently instructed to use insect repellent when she and other campers left the immediate camp space for areas likely to have the infectious deer ticks.” [Read more HERE](#). Thanks to [Gary Forster, Camping Consultant](#) for this info. [Lyme Disease information](#) and prevention strategies are available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Training on new Hazard Communication information is due soon. Employers must train workers on the new label elements and safety data sheet format for hazardous chemicals by December 1, 2013. Compliance assistance resources are available for employers to assist them in meeting the requirements of OSHA's revised Hazard Communication Standard. A new [fact sheet](#) discusses the training topics that employers must cover for the December 1st deadline. In addition, a new OSHA [brief](#) explains the new labeling elements, identifies what goes on a label, and describes what pictograms are and how to use them. OSHA's updated standard, which is aligned with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, provides a common and coherent approach to classifying chemicals and communicating hazard information on labels and safety data sheets. Additional information and resources are available on OSHA's [Hazard Communications page](#).

This Month's Topics:

[Child Abuse Prevention Program Evaluation](#)

[Preventing Aquatic Incidents](#)

[AED Laws](#)

[Protecting Youth Online](#)

[Lyme Disease Info](#)

[Haz Com Training Deadline](#)