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There is still time to join in on the Risk SUMMIT. The *2013 Risk SUMMIT* will convene from August 25-27, 2013 in Boston, MA. What are you waiting for? The average conference attendee walks away with 5 to 20 solid contacts. Make new connections. Join top nonprofit sector leaders and register for the [2013 Risk SUMMIT](#). Attendees will enjoy a provocative keynote featuring former Massachusetts Attorney General, Scott Harshbarger. Other informative risk management workshops include: "Top 10 Risk Lessons from Tech Disasters," "Effective Crisis Communications," "ERM Governance and Oversight," and "CFO & Risk Manager Superheroes". View the entire [2013 Risk SUMMIT](#) program [HERE](#).

Preparing for the Fall Program Season:

It's time to think about driver safety training and the new school-year. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ([NHTSA](#)) is committed to reducing school bus-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities through both behavioral programs and vehicle regulations. NHTSA works to educate bus drivers, students, and others about safe behavior that reduces the risk of vehicular incidents. More information about their programs and an in-service training series is available at their [Website](#). Check with [Safe-Wise Consulting](#) for more information about onsite or online driver training programs.

It's Better to Miss One Game than the Whole Season according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)). The CDC has developed the [Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports](#) initiative to offer information about concussions and to help ensure the health and safety of young athletes. The *Heads Up* initiative provides important information on preventing, recognizing, and responding to a concussion for coaches, parents and athletes. A concussion is an injury that changes how the cells in the brain normally work. The potential for concussions is greatest in athletic environments where collisions are common. Concussions can occur, however in any organized or unorganized sport or recreational activity. As many as 3.8 million sports and recreation related concussions occur in the United States each year.

Playgrounds are an important program element for many youth-serving organizations. As the busy summer program season winds down and preparations begin for the fall, facilities should be inspected for safety and security. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) publishes [Guidelines for Public Playground Safety](#), which can assist staff in properly reviewing their play ground facilities to ensure the safety of participants.

The most critical skills for a lifeguard are those that prevent accidents.

While rescue and resuscitation skills are extremely important, scanning skills used in victim recognition are the primary function of the lifeguard. Lifeguards must be constantly vigilant and attentive. Lifeguards may appear to be actively scanning but tests continue to show that less than 10 percent of lifeguards would identify a submerged object within 10 seconds. Safe-Wise Consulting provides workshop training presentations that focus on the critical behaviors that encourage a high level of vigilance and aquatic safety. Workshops focus on strategies to improve victim recognition, vigilance capacity, management functions, lifeguard supervision, lifeguard training, drills and scanning strategies. Contact [Safe-Wise Consulting](#) for more information about onsite aquatic safety training. An "Effective Lifeguard" training presentation is also available [online](#).

Waivers are an effective risk-management tool. While they are not all created equally; a well written waiver that has been properly enacted can help your organization manage risks. Waivers must be appropriate to the activity and written in terms that are recognized in the state where the waiver is used. More about waivers can be found in the [Online Resource Library](#) and in [this article](#) from [Recreation Management](#) magazine.

This Month's Topics:

Risk Management Summit

Driver Safety Training

Preventing Concussions

Playground Safety

Lifeguard Effectiveness

Use of Waivers