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Protect staff from the dangers of distracted driving. As the busy summer program season approaches it is an excellent time to review your organization's transportation policy. Each year, more than 35,000 people are killed on America's roads and traffic collisions are the number one cause of workplace deaths. In a recent [guest post](#) on US Department of Labor's (DOL) blog, National Safety Council President and CEO Deborah Hersman explains the dangers associated with distracted driving and describes available tools, including a free [cell phone policy kit](#), to help employers protect workers from these risks. Visit OSHA's [Distracted Driving webpage](#) or the [Online Resource Library](#) for more information.

Resources for managing bicycle program risks are available from the Bicycle Coalition of Maine ([BCM](#)). Resources are available for staff leading road or off-road bicycle adventures. Resources include safe riding practices, equipment fit and selection suggestions. The ABC quick check should be followed before each ride. This includes checking Air, Brakes and Chains. The site offers a wide range of useful information including videos and program resources. Read more [HERE](#).

Recreational Water Illness (RWI) Prevention is an issue all year long. With the onset of the busy summer swim season it is very important to review prevention strategies as thousands of swimmers head to outdoor pools. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) provides leadership and resources in preventing the outbreak of RWI. Some resources provide an outline of simple steps swimmers and pool operators can take to ensure a healthy and safe swimming experience for everyone. Training, prevention practices and communication are key strategies in preventing RWI. More information is available [HERE](#).

Springtime weather means the start of outdoor grilling season. Outdoor events and programs often mean that nonprofit organization staff is "working the grill". While some staff members may be safety conscious it should not be a foregone conclusion they are prepared for the potential pitfalls of gas grills; a little training and orientation goes a long way in preventing grilling incidents. LP gas/liquid propane and natural gas are flammable. Many accidents occur after the grill has been unused over a period of time or after a grill's LP gas container has been refilled and reattached. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) suggests that before starting the grill there are several safety precautions to keep in mind. The CPSC has published [Gas Grill Safety Guidelines](#) to provide safety education to grill users. By following these guidelines staff will help to prevent injuries and possible gas explosions or fires. For those "old school" grillers using charcoal the National Fire Protection Association has published [Grilling Safety Tips](#). Additional program safety and fire prevention information is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Did you see this in the previous E-news:

Emergency situations can be stressful. Fortunately the days of trying to remember what to do or searching for a notebook with an emergency plan can be replaced with today's technology. There are a number of crisis planning and response apps available for the smart devices your staff carry with them regularly. These flexible tools offer a variety of options that can your organization, plan and prepare for, communicate and respond to emergencies. Here's a few in no particular order: [Crisis Plan](#) is a mobile safety solution that focuses on improving your emergency preparedness by giving you the power to easily publish your emergency plans and send them out to your staff. You can also update your emergency plans whenever you need to, while refining your emergency response system. [In Case of Crisis](#) is an award-winning mobile solution that allows you to better care for the well-being of your people by offering an easy and secure way to access your emergency procedures and safety guidelines. This all-in-one-solution includes incident reporting, push notifications, the ability to build and support multiple preparedness plans, and the ability to manage different use cases, groups or locations. [CrisisGo](#) allows you to have a thorough emergency preparedness plan in place so your staff knows how to react in times of crisis. From knowing what to do in a chemical spill to taking the proper preventative steps in the first minutes of an active shooter crisis, every second counts. By having this app in the hands of your staff you'll know that you are empowering them with the information they need to respond quickly and effectively. Want to know more? Perhaps a recent blog article "[5 things you need in a crisis app](#)" will help.

Your emergency responders should know about DNR orders. More so, your organization needs to plan for how your staff will respond when confronted with such a request. Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders allow individuals to refuse unwanted resuscitation attempts and ensure that patients' rights are honored. While traditionally these were in more regular use in hospitals and nursing homes, most states now have programs that enable individuals to have DNRs honored outside a medical facility and are currently part of EMS systems. Organizations should plan ahead and approach the development and implementation of guidelines as part of their emergency response plans. Consider involving professionals, volunteers and members from their communities in the development of your guidelines. Special consideration must be made for your state's law, the community EMS practices and the personal sensitivity of this issue. Find the rules for your state [HERE](#). [Sample guidelines](#) are available in the Online Resource Library.

This Month's Topics:

Transportation Safety – Distracted Driving
Bike Program Safety
Recreational Waterborne Illness Prevention
Outdoor Grill Safety
Planning for Emergencies
Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Orders