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**Are you ready for thunderstorms?** Thunderstorms can occur at any time of year, however the warm, humid conditions of the summer make the development of thunderstorms a greater risk. Thunderstorms may occur singly, in clusters or in lines. The most severe thunderstorms can affect one location for an extended period of time. Thunderstorms produce lightning and lightning strikes can be fatal. Lightning kills more than 70 people and injures at least 300 others each year in the United States according to the National Weather Service (NWS). Read more [HERE](#). More information on emergency preparedness is available in the [Online Resource Library](#).

**Today marks a compliance deadline** for the OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) Hazard Communication Standard. The look of, and information on, material safety data sheets and product labels will change because OSHA has adopted revisions to the Hazard Communication Standard (HAZ Com). The revisions to the standard include requiring all employers using hazardous substances to train employees on the new hazard communication system. The major changes to Haz Com include redefining hazard classifications, reconfiguring the information on product labels and providing chemical information on the 16-section Safety Data Sheet instead of the previous form of the "Material Safety Data Sheet". OSHA made the changes to conform with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, which experts believe to be a more effective system for communicating hazards to employers and workers. Manufacturers must use the new label format by June 1, 2015 (today). The two different hazardous communication systems will coexist until June 1, 2016. By that date, employers must update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication programs as necessary, as well as provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards. For more information on changes to the Hazard Communication Standard visit OSHA's [Website](#).

**Do your organization's risks keep you up at night?** Do you worry that your nonprofit doesn't do enough to protect its reputation, or does less than its peers? Then it's time to plan on attending the 2015 Risk Summit for an unforgettable learning experience. Presented by the Nonprofit Risk Management Center, the Summit will be held at the Hard Rock hotel in Chicago from September 20<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. The schedule includes hands-on and skills-based workshops inspired by previous attendee feedback, along with great opportunities for networking and learning from leaders in nonprofit risk management. Read more [HERE](#).

**Tick season is here.** Normal tick season is from May through August. Adult ticks are sesame-sized and readily visible, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)). A great concern for humans are also the recently hatched nymphs (about the size of the period at the end of this sentence) that can cause infections to occur. Because they are essentially invisible, preying on a host can easily go undetected. In most cases, the tick must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before an illness such as Lyme disease can be transmitted. Infections from ticks, such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever are on the rise. The good news is that you can take steps to reduce your risk of being bitten by an infected tick. Read more [HERE](#) for prevention information. Other resources include this [curriculum for educating youth](#) and handouts such as [these](#).

#### **Did you see this in the previous E-news:**

**The busy summer aquatic season will soon be here.** A number of resources have been added to the Online Resource Library that will assist pool operators, lifeguards and other staff in providing safe facilities and programs. Resources include staff safety resources such as a [Pool Chemical Safety](#) video produced by the [Chlorine Institute](#) and the [American Chemistry Council](#), recommended chemical handling ([English](#) and [Español](#)) and chemical storage practices ([English](#) and [Español](#)). Several fact sheets from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) provide guidance on [pool operation](#), [spa operation](#) and [pool chemical operations](#). Lifeguard readiness resources such as [scanning drills](#) and aquatic quick check forms have been updated. Swimmer management resources include [Considerations for Developing Swim Testing Protocols](#), [Considerations for Safe Water Slide Operation](#) and [Buddy System Swimming Guidelines](#). Review all the resources at the [Aquatics Safety](#) page in the [Online Resource Library](#). Download the annual Summer Aquatic Safety Reminder [HERE](#).

**Keep the playgrounds fun with SUPER vision.** Every day at the playground can be fun with active supervision and some basic safety tips. Providing a safe and age appropriate playground is only part of the formula for preventing accidents and injuries. Shock-absorbing surfaces such as rubber, synthetic turf, sand, pea gravel, wood chips or mulch will help reduce the likelihood of injuries from falls. Active supervision by trained staff will help prevent many other issues. Playground supervision is as important as being a lifeguard around the pool. Many playground incidents, from simple accidents to behavioral issues, can be prevented when staff are engaged in providing SUPER vision on the playground. Safe Kids Worldwide (SFW) provides two good resources to help communicate practices to your staff: [Playground Safety Tips](#) and [Childhood Injury Fact Sheet](#). The National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) provides a [Staff Training Video](#) that can help reinforce good playground practices. More information is available from the [Online Resource Library](#) including the [Handbook for Public Playground Safety](#).