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Let's make safety a habit with staff. Most people have a bad habit or two. Forgetting or ignoring the safety information that was learned during summer staff training should not be one of these bad habits. Safe-Wise Consulting has prepared weekly Tip Sheets to help regularly refresh summer staff's commitment to safety. This information should first be part of pre-summer staff training and later used as a weekly refresher of key practices in protecting youth, staff and the organization from harm. Read more [HERE](#).

Safety breaks at pools can help prevent aquatic incidents. Implementing hourly break periods (5-10 minutes) during recreation swims is encouraged by the Centers for Disease Control ([CDC](#)) to help reduce fecal accidents and incidence of recreational water illnesses ([RWIs](#)) by allowing time for youth to use restrooms. During these breaks the entire pool is cleared of swimmers for the rest period. These breaks can also help maintain lifeguard alertness by giving guards time to regroup, refresh and rotate positions. Other benefits include encouraging all staff and swimmers at outdoor pools to use the time to hydrate, apply sunscreen and for groups to ensure all members are accounted for. More information on summer pool safety is available [HERE](#).

Summer weather and high daytime temperatures are here. Staff, volunteers and summer program participants need to know how to prevent health problems caused by high temperatures. Organizations should provide heat stress training to staff and supervisors. Everyone should keep the following precautions in mind when spending time outdoor during daytime hours: keep hydrated (drink a glass of [water](#) every 15 to 30 minutes to prevent overheating, take breaks to cool down (at least a 10- or 15-minute break every two hours) and remember to adapt your pace to the weather. Read more [HERE](#). Also have staff check out [OSHA's Heat Safety Tool mobile app](#) to calculate the Heat Index for your location and get reminders about how to prevent heat illness every day.

Water slides, play structures and spray features are the trend at aquatic venues and in the aquatic industry in general. These features may present new challenges to experienced aquatic facility operators. Design, safety and operational guidelines come from the amusement industry and organizations like ASTM International (formerly the American Society for Testing Materials). Manufacturers and also some states have produced operational safety guidelines and/or requirements. Some credentialing bodies that specialize in water park safety exist but the larger lifeguarding industry is only really beginning to address the need for specialized lifeguard training. Add into the mix older slides with fewer safety features and inflatables and your facility can present many safety challenges. Read more about [safe slide operation](#) and [use of inflatables](#) in the [Online Resource Library](#).

Camps need to be prepared for lice. It starts with health screening as campers arrive and continues with good health practices during camp, but even with good practices in place lice can become a problem. One of the most commonly asked questions from camps each year is about lice according to the American Camp Association (ACA). Because of this the ACA has developed resources to help camps and recommends these five tips from the lessons learned during years of helping camps: Be Informed; Have a lice control policy; Screen for lice; Lice infestations need to be treated quickly and Communication is critical. Read more from the ACA [HERE](#) and from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [HERE](#).

Did you see this in the previous E-news:

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](#).

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](#).

This Month's Topics:

Safety Reminders
Pool Safety Breaks
Managing Hot Weather
Water Slides, Inflatables and Other Features
Head Lice at Camp
Thunderstorms
Tick Season