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Electrical Inspections: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) has reported 14 pool-related electrocutions between 2003 and 2014. Hot tubs and spas may present the same electrical hazards as swimming pools. Electrical equipment that does not meet code places patrons and employees at considerable risk. An important part of every aquatic facilities preventative maintenance plan should include an electrical inspection by a licensed electrician every three to five years to identify potential shock hazards to staff and patrons. Areas of vulnerability around pools, hot tubs and spas include underwater lights, electric pool equipment like pumps, filters, and vacuums, extension and power cords, electrical outlets or switches, fans, radios, stereos, TVs and other electrical products. Seasonal locations should ensure that equipment is inspected yearly for any signs of problems due to extended closure. Animals, temperature fluctuations, weather and moisture can sometimes damage systems that have been shut down for extended periods, especially if not properly winterized. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the CPSC on electrical safety in and around pools, spas and hot tubs.

Storm Clean-up Safety: With severe storms hitting many parts of the country in recent weeks, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) urges recovery workers, employers and the public to use caution during cleanup and recovery efforts. The agency urges all to be aware of hazards they may encounter, and steps needed to stay safe and healthy. The main concern is the safety and health of the workers and volunteers conducting cleanup activities. Everyone should use personal protective equipment ([PPE](#)) and implement safe work practices to protect themselves from hazards such as [electrocution](#), struck-by, caught-in and other hazards. Protective measures should involve; Evaluating work areas for all hazards. Monitoring task-specific hazard exposure. Assuming all power lines are live. Following proper hygiene procedures. Using portable generators, saws, [ladders](#), vehicles and other equipment correctly. Creating traffic work zones. Click [HERE](#) for additional resources for storm cleanup activities from [OSHA](#) and on our [Resource Library](#).

Playgrounds Shouldn't Hurt: Springtime is here and playground season is in full swing. Playgrounds should be a safe place for our children to have fun and play games, but far too often common hazards can lead to injuries—and even death. A [new playground equipment report](#) was just issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) and it found that from 2009 to 2014, 19 of the 34 fatal playground incidents that they investigated were the result of hanging or asphyxiation. During that same period, nearly 1.5 million injuries associated with playground equipment were treated nationally in emergency departments. Annually, that breaks down to about 243,000 ER treated injuries. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of the Dirty Dozen; 12 Playground Hazards from the National Recreation and Parks Association ([NRPA](#)). Additional resources on playground safety from the CPSC can be found [HERE](#) and on our [Resource Library](#).

Youth Sports Program Safety Reminder: Spring is here and many organizations are kicking off their outdoor youth sports programs. Here are several important and sometimes overlooked safety items that deserve specific attention. Review your hiring, [screening](#) and [training practices](#), as they play a crucial role in [preventing child abuse](#). From criminal background checks and multiple [telephone reference checks](#), to program specific training and [abuse prevention practices](#), applying multiple layers of protection to your youth sports programs is the most effective way to keep the young people in your program safe. Remember, [volunteer coaches](#) perform the same function as paid staff coaches, so all these practices should be applied equally to volunteer coaches as well. If your organization is responsible for transporting youth sports participants to and from games, it's important to make sure that all [transportation policy](#) protocols are followed, that all drivers receive MVR's (motor vehicle reports), are properly [trained](#), and that vehicles are [safe](#) and have been thoroughly [inspected](#). Finally, ensure that your [soccer goals](#) are correctly anchored with augers, chains or 50 pound bags on each side on the back of the soccer goal to anchor it in place. Soccer goal tip-over accidents can cause severe injury and even death if they tip over on somebody. Make sure there are warning decal on all soccer goals reminding players, coaches and staff that the soccer goals need to be properly secured. Train and remind staff of the need to replace anchors, especially maintenance staff after mowing, and program staff after running programs. Click [HERE](#) for the Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) safety alert relating to movable soccer goals. Oh yeah, don't forget to have FUN!

Did you see this in the last E-news?

May is National Water Safety Month. The busy summer swim season will soon be upon us and it's time for all aquatic leaders to be alert and prepared by orienting and regularly training seasonal lifeguard staff. Safe-Wise has again updated our annual summer aquatics preparation resource to help aquatic professionals prepare for a safe and enjoyable summer. Prepare for the summer cautiously and ensure that lifeguards are well prepared and vigilant with effective practices and procedures. Read more [HERE](#).

Springtime 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 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](#).