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**Membership / Guest Screening.** With new year's resolutions and cold winter weather setting in, you can expect new faces at your door this time of year. Now is a good time to review and update your membership and visitor screening practices. Screening is an important layer of youth protection to help decrease the risk of abuse. Does your organization check **all** members, guests, staff and contractors into the facility? Do you always know who is in your building? Do visitors sign-in and wear a name tag identifying them? Does your organization conduct a national sex offender registry check on everyone who enters your facilities? No one should have unauthorized access to youth or be in the building or program areas without acceptable identification and permission. Best practice is to conduct a [national sex offender registry check](#) on all members and guests prior to gaining entry to your facility and have established procedures for responding when you find anyone on the list. The practice of membership and visitor screening is also a deterrent to potential predators who are looking for easy access to children. Sex offender registry checks should be repeated on the same schedule as staff criminal background checks. Click [HERE](#) for additional child abuse prevention resources located on the [Safe-Wise Resource Library](#).

**Save the Date! 2018 Risk Summit.** The Nonprofit Risk Management Center ([NRMC](#)) will host the 2018 Risk Summit, October, 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Loews Philadelphia. The conference format has been shifted slightly, with sessions scheduled for all day Monday and Tuesday. A Fall cohort of the Risk Leadership Certificate Program ([RLCP](#)) will be held at the Loews, Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>. Complete the RLCP survey [HERE](#) to receive additional information about the program. The call for presentations/presenters, conference registration, and a link to make hotel reservations will be announced in early Spring 2018.

**Snow Removal and Cleanup Hazards.** With record snowfalls and frigid temperatures across the country, the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) is urging all those involved in snow removal and cleanup to take precautions and focus on safety. Workers performing snow removal operations may be exposed to serious hazards, including [slips and falls](#) while walking on snow and ice, [falls from roofs](#) and roof edges, through skylights, or from aerial ladders and lifts. Workers may also be injured by a roof collapse. Other storm recovery work hazards include being struck by vehicles, carbon monoxide, [hypothermia](#), and being injured by powered equipment. Click [HERE](#) for a full list of winter storm hazards and safeguards.

**Extension Cord Safety.** If extension cords are used at your facility, employees should be aware of a number of safety “do’s” and “don’ts” before plugging in a cord, but first and foremost, extension cords are for temporary use only.

**Do:**

- Inspect cords for damage before use
- Ensure cords have the mark of an independent testing laboratory, such as [UL](#)
- Make sure the cord is completely plugged into an outlet
- Replace an outlet if a plug is too loose in the outlet
- Put safety covers on the unused receptacle outlets on extension cords, especially in childcare areas
- Keep extension cords away from children and animals
- Pull on the plug, not the cord when removing an extension cord from the outlet.
- Keep cords away from water. Ground fault circuit interrupter protection should be used when extension cords are in wet or damp environments

**Don't:**

- Don't use cords outdoors that are marked for indoor use only.
- Don't plug one cord into another.
- Don't plug a three-prong into a two-hole extension cord
- Don't run them across floors or doorways.
- Don't force a plug into an outlet.
- Don't cover a cord with a rug or carpet. If cord is covered, heat cannot escape, which may result in a fire hazard
- Don't drive over an extension cord.

Click [HERE](#) to access a sharable “Using Extension Cords Properly” infographic from The Electrical Safety Foundation International ([ESFI](#)).

**Did you see this in the last E-news?**

**Ensuring Compliance with the Updated Drain Cover Standard** is the title of a December 2017 [Aquatics International](#) article by [Steve Barnes](#), chairman of the APSP-16 Standard Writing Committee and the [APSP](#) Technical Committee. The article states, as the drain cover standard cited in the federal pool and spa safety law has been rewritten, it becomes apparent that entrapment safety is about more than the drain. Ten years ago, this month, the [Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act](#) was signed into federal law. At the time, it plunged the pool, spa and hot tub world into turmoil. Public facilities were hit especially hard, as they had one year to outfit pools with compliant drain covers. Some were forced to close when these products were nowhere to be found. Head's up! The drain cover standard named in VGB is changing in 2018. Click [HERE](#) to read the full article.

**The Frankenstein Effect: Misclassifying Your Volunteers.** The Non-Profit Risk Management Center ([NRMC](#)) team fields lots of questions about worker classification. If you misclassify a worker, you increase the likelihood of various downside risks, including financial penalties and poor morale. Read about [The Frankenstein Effect](#) to prevent your nonprofit from creating a misclassified monster risk. Dig in deeper with their article [Employee or Volunteer - What's the Difference?](#)