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**Tick Season Is Here.** According to a recent [press release](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) illnesses from mosquito, tick, and flea bites have tripled in the U.S., with more than 640,000 cases reported during the 13 years from 2004 through 2016. Nine new germs spread by mosquitoes and ticks were discovered or introduced into the US during this time. Tick-borne pathogens can be passed to humans by the bite of infected ticks. Some of the most common tick-borne diseases in the US include: [Lyme disease](#), [Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever](#), [Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness](#) and [Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever](#). Lyme disease is the most commonly reported vector borne illness in the US per the CDC. Ticks usually must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before an illness such as Lyme disease can be transmitted. Youth serving organizations should consider including tick information in their summer program [parent information](#) and remind parents after youth have been in areas prone to ticks such as wooded areas and grassy fields. Some camps post [signage](#) encouraging use of repellent and frequent tick checks. [Youth](#), parents and staff should be reminded to watch for ticks and seek assistance when [removal](#) is needed. Click [HERE](#) to learn how to reduce tick exposure. Check with your local health officials for more information and any specific regulations pertaining to summer camp and other outdoor programs.

**Tamper Resistant Receptacles.** According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International ([ESFI](#)), each year, 2,400 children in the US are treated for [injuries caused by electrical outlets](#). A study by Temple University found that 100% of all 2-4-year olds were able to remove one type of plastic outlet cap within 10 seconds. Outlet caps may also pose a choking hazard. You can properly childproof your outlets by installing Tamper Resistant Receptacles. Tamper Resistant Receptacles ([TRRs](#)) offer a permanent solution to outlet covers and provide permanent security against the insertion of objects other than cord plugs into the energized slots. Built in shutters prevent foreign objects from being inserted into the outlet. TRR's have been required by the [National Electrical Code](#) since 2008. Click [HERE](#) to view: The ins and outs video; Do your outlets need an upgrade?

**The Five Most Important Tips for Positioning Lifeguards** is the title of an [Aquatics International article](#) by [Rebecca Robledo](#). The article states that more and more facilities are adopting leisure pools, or multi-purpose pools, whether through new construction or conversion of existing pools. It's hard to resist such people magnets. But the very features and crowds that make them so appealing also can complicate lifeguards' ability to meet benchmarks for scanning, zone coverage, victim recognition and rescue times. Determining the right number and position of lifeguards can present a larger challenge in these pools, even if it's a standard rectangle with expanded programming. When taking on a leisure pool, follow these tips for determining the number and position of your lifeguards to achieve the safest outcome: Know the challenges; plan early and with the right team; start with general guidelines; know your stationing options and validate the plans in real life. Click [HERE](#) to read the full article.

**Responder Liaison & Go Bags.** An important, yet often overlooked part of your organization's [emergency action planning](#) should be to create a partnership with your local law enforcement by assigning a responder liaison to work with emergency responders. The responder liaison should be knowledgeable with your facilities emergency and security procedures as well as floor plans. Your responder liaison should invite responders to your facility. Ensure your emergency action plans include a site assessment with all information you can provide to responders. This includes public address systems, security cameras, alarms, medical supplies, building maps, and primary and alternate ingress and egress routes and locations where your disabled, access and functional needs personnel may be sheltering in place. Identify a secondary staging area and coordinate that with first responders. Your responder liaison should also prepare a Go-Bag to hand off to first responders in an emergency. Your Go-Bag should minimally include: maps w/ floor plans, master keys, controlled access swipe cards, sharpies or large black grease pencils, tourniquets / quick clot kits, radios connected with site security and flashlights. More information on [Emergency Preparedness](#) can be found on our online [Resource Library](#).

**What's New:** [2018 Summer Aquatics Safety Reminder](#) available now!

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

**May is National Water Safety Month.** In recognition of the popularity of swimming and other water-related recreational activities in the United States, and the resulting need for ongoing public education on safer water practices, the month of May is [National Water Safety Month](#). With the busy summer swim season soon upon us, 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. Leaders must recognize that many youths who visit their pools may not have adequate swimming skills and should work to eliminate the risk of drowning for these children by swim-testing all swimmers, requiring specific protections for non-swimmers and offering swim instruction when possible. Click [HERE](#) to view the full 2018 Summer Aquatics Safety Reminder.

**May is National Electrical Safety Month.** The Electrical Safety Foundation International ([ESFI](#)) is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety in the [home](#), [school](#), and [workplace](#). To commemorate [National Electrical Safety Month](#), ESFI spearheads an annual campaign to educate key audiences about the steps that can be taken in order to reduce the number of [electrically-related fires](#), fatalities, injuries, and property loss. ESFI's National Electrical Safety Month 2018 campaign features a comprehensive collection of new and updated resources to help facilitate an effective electrical safety awareness campaign for your community, organization, school, or family. Click [HERE](#) to access ESFI's 2018 National Electrical Safety Month Electrical Safety Advocate Guide.