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Reminder: *Safety Insights* will be published monthly during July & August. Our semimonthly publication schedule will return in September.

National Preparedness Month. [Ready.gov's](#) National Preparedness Month ([NPM](#)), recognized each September, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year. This NPM will focus on planning, with an overarching theme: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.** Take time to learn lifesaving skills – such as CPR and first aid, check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards you may face, such as flood, earthquakes, and tornados. Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas. The devastating hurricanes and wildfires of 2017 reminded the nation of the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, we will be the first ones in our communities to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive, so it is important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community. Click [HERE](#) to check out weekly themes, tips and ideas to promote preparedness in your community.

Updated Model Aquatic Health Code. On July 18th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) released the updated 2018 Model Aquatic Health Code ([MAHC](#)). Revisions and updates include structural changes, clarifying edits, and new or revised recommendations in the areas of disinfection and water quality; lifeguarding and bather supervision; and risk management and safety. A summary of key changes and a track changes version with line-by-line edits is available on the [MAHC website](#). The MAHC is a voluntary guidance document based on science and best practices that can help local and state authorities and the aquatics sector make swimming and other water activities healthier and safer. States and localities can use the MAHC to create or update existing pool codes to reduce risk for outbreaks, drowning, and pool-chemical injuries. The MAHC guidelines are all-inclusive and address the design, construction, operation, maintenance, policies, and management of public aquatic facilities.

Takata Airbag Recall Update: According to Consumer Reports ([CR](#)) the recall has tripled in size over the past year. It is expected that the inflator recall will impact more than 37 million vehicles in the U.S., involving 49.5 million inflators. Vehicles made by 19 different automakers have been recalled to replace frontal airbags on the driver's side or passenger's side, or both in what the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ([NHTSA](#)) has called "the largest and most complex safety recall in U.S. history." The airbags, made by major parts supplier Takata, were mostly installed in cars from model year 2002 through 2015. Some of those airbags could deploy explosively, injuring or even killing car occupants. To date, there have been 15 deaths due to this problem in the U.S. Worldwide, NHTSA reports there have been at least 23 deaths and 300 injuries. Click [HERE](#) to check the recall status of your vehicles.

Putting Your Safety First When Responding to An Emergency is the title of a June 20, 2018, Health & Safety Institute ([HSI](#)) blog. The blog states that when people are injured or suddenly fall ill, the scene around them is often chaotic. Concerned bystanders, family members and emergency services personnel are all reacting and responding to the incident simultaneously, and the incident scene itself may pose dangers. An emergency care provider knows to put his or her own safety first, even before the safety of an ill or injured person. Putting yourself in danger to help someone can make the situation worse, both for yourself and for those around you. Read more [HERE](#).

Did you see this in the last E-news?

Prevent Mid-Summer Let Down. July sees more swimmers and more drownings than any other month, so it is imperative that lifeguards at aquatic facilities are prepared and vigilant. Here are a few tips to help manage swimmers and prevent incidents: **Training** - In-service training should include a heavy emphasis on the prevention of drowning, [scanning drills](#) should be part of the daily/weekly schedule and the aquatic [EAP](#) should be practiced regularly; **Swimmer management** – ensure that [swim testing](#), buddy checks and safety breaks are consistently and smoothly implemented. **Lifeguards** – provide adequate breaks, water and shade for guards and ensure they are properly positioned and equipped. Need more ideas for aquatic safety? Review the summer [Aquatic Safety Reminder](#) again and visit the [Online Resource Library](#).

2018 Safe + Sound Campaign: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's ([OSHA](#)) [2018 Safe + Sound Week](#) will be held August 13-19. Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event to raise awareness and understanding of the value of workplace safety and health programs. It is an opportunity for employers to show commitment to health and safety by launching or renewing efforts to identify and manage hazards before they cause injuries or illnesses. Click [HERE](#) to register your organization as a participant and get ideas on how to recognize the week in your workplace.