

**SUMMER SAFETY MYTHS**

**(AND WHAT TO DO TO SO CHILDREN CAN HAVE A SAFER SUMMER)**

#	MYTH	TRUTH	HAZARDS	FACTS*	TO DO**
1.	<b>MYTH: ONE BARRIER OF PROTECTION WILL GUARD AGAINST BACKYARD DROWNINGS</b>	<b>ONE BARRIER IS NOT ENOUGH BETWEEN A CHILD AND WATER</b>	<b>DROWNING- DEATH, BRAIN DAMAGE</b>	<b>DEATHS: 351 (AVG. PER YEAR 2013-2015), INJURIES: 6,400 (EST. PER YEAR 2015-2017) (UNDER 15 YEARS)</b>	<b>USE MULTIPLE BARRIERS BETWEEN A CHILD AND WATER (I.E., DOOR LOCKS, GATES, POOL COVERS, ALARMS) / AND ALWAYS SUPERVISE</b>
2.	<b>MYTH: ONLY LARGE BODIES OF WATER (I.E., IN-GROUND SWIMMING POOLS) ARE DROWNING HAZARDS</b>	<b>CHILDREN CAN DROWN IN AS LITTLE AS 2 INCHES OF WATER</b>	<b>DROWNING- DEATH, BRAIN DAMAGE</b>	<b>DEATHS: 434 REPORTED NON-POOL &amp; NON-SPA (I.E., BUCKETS, DECORATIVE YARD EQUIPMENT) (CHILDREN UNER 5, 2006-2010) EVERY 5 DAYS: 1 CHILD DIES IN PORTABLE POOLS IN WARM WEATHER MONTHS</b>	<b>DO NOT OVERLOOK SMALLER WATER HAZARDS (I.E., BUCKETS, WADING POOLS, FOUNTAINS) USE SAME PRECAUTIONS AS ABOVE EMPTY BUCKETS, BABY POOLS AFTER USE AND TURN UPSIDIE DOWN SO THEY DO NOT COLLECT RAINWATER</b>
3.	<b>MYTH: FLOTATION DEVICES ARE SAFETY DEVICES (I.E., WATER WINGS, RAFTS)</b>	<b>FLOTATION DEVICES DO NOT REPLACE ADULT SUPERVISION</b>	<b>DROWNING- DEATH, BRAIN DAMAGE</b>	<b>DROWN: 10 PEOPLE EVERY DAY</b>	<b>DILIGENT SUPERVISION STILL REQUIRED/ BEWARE: RAFTS CAN BLOCK THE VIEW OF A CHILD IN TROUBLE</b>
4.	<b>MYTH: YOU WILL HEAR A CHILD DROWNING</b>	<b>DROWNING CAN BE QUICK AND SILENT</b>	<b>DROWNING- DEATH, BRAIN DAMAGE</b>	<b>LEADING CAUSE OF UNINTENTIONAL DEATH: DROWNING (AGES 1 TO 14)</b>	<b>NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED NEAR WATER-- EVEN TO ANSWER THE PHONE</b>
5.	<b>MYTH: BICYCLE HELMETS ARE ONLY FOR THE ROAD AND DON'T HAVE TO BE WORN IN YOUR DRIVEWAY</b>	<b>MOST BICYCLE ACCIDENTS TAKE PLACE WITHIN 5 BLOCKS OF HOME/ HELMETS REDUCE THE RISK OF BRAIN/HEAD INJURY UP TO 88%</b>	<b>HEAD/BRAIN INJURIES- CONCUSSION, BRAIN DAMAGE, DEATH</b>	<b>9 OUT OF 10 KIDS WHO DIE EACH YEAR RIDING A BIKE ARE NOT WEARING A HELMET/ A 2-FOOT FALL CAN CAUSE FRACTURE/BRAIN DAMAGE</b>	<b>ALWAYS WEAR A PROPERLY FITTED HELMET- EVEN WHEN BIKING IN A DRIVEWAY OR TO A NEIGHBOR'S HOME</b>
6.	<b>MYTH: PLAYGROUNDS ARE DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN THEREFORE MUST BE SAFE</b>	<b>INJURIES OCCUR FROM COLLISIONS, ENTRAPMENT, FALLS, INADEQUATE EQUIPMENT, IMPROPER GROUND SURFACING,</b>	<b>DEATH, STRANGUALTION, FRACTURES, OTHER SEVERE INJURIES</b>	<b>DEATHS: 34 (2009-2014) INJURIES: 1,459,201 (2009-2014) (PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT)</b>	<b>NO STRINGS/CHORDS: DRAWSTRINGS ON CLOTHING AND BICYCLE HELMET STRAPS CAN CATCH ON EQUIPMENT/ EQUIPMENT: SHOULD BE AN AGE APPROPRIATE SIZE/ALWAYS SUPERVISE</b>
7.	<b>MYTH: SOCCER GOALS ON FIELDS ARE PERMANENT AND CAN'T FALL OVER</b>	<b>GOALS CAN BE IMPROPERLY ANCHORED AND POORLY DESIGNED-22 LBS: ALL THAT'S NEEDED TO TIP A 400 POUND GOAL</b>	<b>SOCCER GOALS CAN TIP OVER AND CRUSH CHILDREN- SEVERE INJURY, DEATH</b>	<b>DEATHS: 35 (MINIMUM SINCE 1979) INJURIES: 56 (1979-2009)</b>	<b>GOALS SHOULD BE ANCHORED: RE-ANCHOR AFTER MOWING OR STORAGE REDESIGN: MANUFACTURERS SHOULD REDESIGN GOALS TO BE TIP-RESISTANT</b>
8.	<b>MYTH: TRAMPOLINES ARE SAFE FOR BACKYARD USE</b>	<b>TRAMPOLINES SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN PROFESSIONAL SETTINGS OR UNDER TRAINED SUPERVISION</b>	<b>DEATH, PARALYSIS, BACK INJURIES, FRACTURES</b>	<b>DEATHS: 22 (2000-2009) INJURIES: &gt;100,000 (EACH YEAR)</b>	<b>DO NOT USE TRAMPOLINES AT HOME</b>
9.	<b>MYTH: WINDOW SCREENS PROTECT AGAINST FALLS</b>	<b>OPEN WINDOWS POSE A RISK TO CHILDREN; SCREENS DO NOT PREVENT WINDOW FALLS</b>	<b>FALLING- DEATH AND SEVERE INJURY</b>	<b>DEATHS: 8 INJURIES: 3,300 (TO CHILDREN UNDER 5)</b>	<b>INSTALL WINDOW GUARDS &amp; WINDOW STOPS/ NEVER RELY ON SCREENS TO STOP FALLS</b>
10.	<b>MYTH: PRODUCTS DESIGNED FOR KIDS ARE SAFE</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS, OUTDOOR PLAYTHINGS, AND TOYS CAN HAVE HIDDEN HAZARDS</b>	<b>INJURIES OR DEATH</b>	<b>TOY DEATHS: 7 (CHILDREN UNDER 15, 2016) TOY INJURIES: 240,000 (ESTIMATED, 2016)</b>	<b>DEMAND SAFER DESIGN &amp; MANUFACTURE FOR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS/ READ INSTRUCTIONS &amp; WARNINGS/INSPECT PRODUCTS</b>

\*FACTS: INJURIES AND DEATH STATISTICS ARE **ESTIMATED PER YEAR** IN THE U.S.A. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED (INJURIES- TREATED IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS)

\*\*FOR MORE SAFETY TIPS, SEE SOURCES BELOW

[SOURCES: TOYSAFETY.ORG, CPSC, NATIONAL HELMET SAFETY INSTITUTE, NEISS, ANCHORSAFETY.ORG]