



WARN

Water Awareness in Residential Neighborhoods

Drowning is preventable.
Help save a life.

Safety Tips

Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children ages one to four. It only takes a matter of seconds for an infant or toddler to drown.

Since drowning is preventable, the Olathe Fire Department started an educational campaign called Olathe WARN (Water Awareness in Residential Neighborhoods). Help protect the life of a child you know and love by using the Olathe WARN information.

**Remember these life-saving tips based on the "SAFER 3":
1 - Safer Kids 2 - Safer Water 3 - Safer Response**

SAFER KIDS

- Learn to swim. The best thing anyone can do to stay safe in and around the water is to learn to swim. This includes adults and children. **Register for swim lessons through the Olathe Parks and Recreation Department at OlatheKS.org/Government/Parks-Recreation.**
- Teach children what to do in a water emergency.
- Never leave a child unsupervised around water. Assign an adult "Water Watcher" to maintain constant supervision. Watch children around any water environment including a pool, stream, lake, tub, toilet or even a bucket of water.
- All weak or non-swimmers should wear a United States Coast Guard approved lifejacket. The use of flotation devices and inflatable toys cannot replace parental supervision. Such devices can suddenly shift position, lose air, or slip out from underneath, leaving the child in a dangerous situation.

SAFER WATER

- Take steps to minimize unauthorized use of the pool. Install fencing with self-closing and self-latching gates and alarms around pools. Lock all doors and windows leading to the pool.

- Have life-saving equipment such as ring buoys or reaching poles available for use, and know how to use them.
- Never leave furniture near the fence that would enable a child to climb over the fence.
- Keep toys away from the pool when it's not in use. Toys can attract young children to the water.
- Remove pool covers before swimming.

SAFER RESPONSE

- Learn CPR and insist that babysitters, grandparents and others who care for your child know it too. **Find out more at OlatheKS.org/Residents/Adult-Education-Programs/CPR-a-freeway-to-save-a-life.**
- Have a phone by the pool so you can call 9-1-1 in an emergency.
- Understand the basics of life saving so you can assist in a pool emergency.
- If you find someone in trouble in the water, yell for help and get them out immediately. Call 9-1-1 and stay on the line. Follow the instructions of the 9-1-1 operator until help arrives, and begin CPR if you are trained. Non-swimmers should reach or throw to help someone out of a pool. Reach with an arm/leg, broom/mop handle, reaching pole or wet towel. Throw a lifejacket, ring buoy, ball or anything that floats.
- If a child is missing, check the pool first. Go to the edge of the pool and scan the entire pool bottom and surface, as well as the surrounding pool area.

Schedule a 15-minute WARN Safety Talk at YOUR home's pool by calling (913) 971-7900.



SWIMMING POOL GATE

- Must open outward from pool
 - Must be self closing and self latching
 - Latch must be more than 1.5m from the ground
 - Must latch shut on the first swing
- Does gate swing back to the closed position after being opened? Yes No - Replace hinges
- Does gate latch and stay closed after it returns to the closed position? Yes No - Replace latch
- Is gate secure so that it can't be pulled open once latched? Yes No - Fix or replace latch
- Is gate secure and doesn't open if a child bounces on the bottom rail of the gate?
- Yes No - Fix or replace latch
- Are you aware of the dangers of propping the gate open? Yes No - Never prop gate open
- Is the gap between the gate and the fence less than 100mm? Yes No - Reduce the gap

SWIMMING POOL FENCE

- Secure and in good working order
 - Should be at least 1.2m high
 - No more than 100mm from the ground
 - No vertical gaps more than 100mm apart
- Are all of the fence panels in place? Yes No - Replace fence panels
- Are all of the fence panels securely attached? Yes No - Secure panels
- Have you checked the fence for gaps or holes? Yes No - Check and fix fence
- Is the distance between the bottom rail and the ground less than 100mm? Yes No - Reduce the gap
- Have you checked for rusted, loose or missing screws? Yes No - Check and replace

AROUND THE SWIMMING POOL FENCE

- Pool aids and toys should be stored securely and out of view
 - Objects that could be used to climb the fence should be removed from the area
- Have climbable objects near the pool fence been removed? i.e. chairs, ladders, trees, pot plants, BBQ's.
- Yes No - Store objects away from fence
- Are toys always removed from the pool and stored securely after use? Yes No - Store toys securely
- Have substitutes for a pool inspection been used for educational purposes only. ~~getting a professional to inspect the fence?~~
- Yes No - Trim trees and shrubs