## **Drowning** is the leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 4 in Florida.



Drownings are often silent and fast.



# Children can drown in less than one inch of water.



### **DID YOU KNOW?** "Floatie" devices

should never be used by children in the water. They cause a false sense of safety.



**REPORT** residential pool safety concerns to Code Enforcement. Violations can include:

- Unclear, stagnant, or foul water
- Lack of proper 4 foot fence, barrier or required latching and locking devices

For more information, visit seminolecountyfl.gov/ drowningprevention





### COMMUNITY HEALTH

# Drowning Prevention







### **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Drowning is the leading cause of death for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Children with ASD are 160 times as likely to die from drowning as the general pediatric population.

# LAYERS OF PROTECTION

## 

- Never leave children unattended in the pool.
- Designate a responsible adult as a "water watcher" when children are swimming, especially at pool parties.
- Drownings can also happen in bathtubs, washing machines and children getting out of the home through doggy doors.

## WATER COMPETENCY

- Swim lessons should be survival-skill oriented, not "water acclimation." Do not teach children that water is fun and safe if they do not have the skills to handle an aquatic emergency.
- Talk to your physician and seek lessons that teach independent skills.

## **BARRIERS & ALARMS**

- Install child-proof locks and alarms on all doors and windows leading to swimming areas.
- Around the pool, install a barrier, which is at least 48 inches high, and is self-closing and self-latching.
- Use pool alarms and have life-saving equipment such as life rings or reaching poles for use.

## **EMERGENCY PREPARATION**

Know how to prepare for an emergency with CPR training and rescue breaths and basic water rescue skills. If a child is missing, always check the water first and call 911.

#### **Avoid Drain Entrapments**

- Ensure all pools and spas have drain covers that are compliant with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act to avoid entrapment hazards. Visit PoolSafely.gov for more information.
- Do not play or swim near drains or suction outlets, especially in spas and shallow pools.
- Keep hair, jewelry, and bathing suits away from drain covers.
- Never enter a pool or spa that has a loose, broken, or missing drain cover.

