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WATER SAFETY

Drowning is one of the leading causes of child deaths each year. Here are some tips to help keep kids safe around water:

- **Never leave a child unattended around water.** Children are drawn to it, and very young children can drown in just an inch of water.
- Empty all buckets, pails and bathtubs completely after each use – do not leave them full and unattended.
- Always have an ADULT supervising young swimmers.
- Don't mix alcohol and supervision of children.
- Be sure that the adult watching your child knows how to swim, get emergency help and perform CPR.
- Keep rescue equipment such as life preserver or (shepherd's hook) and a telephone near the pool.
- Plastic or blow-up wading pools should always be drained and stored in an upright position after each use.
- Enclose pools completely with a self-locking, self-closing fence. Do not leave furniture around that children can use to climb over the fence.
- Teach your child to swim at an early age. Teach your child to assume a float (on back) position.

Flotation devices or inflatable toys are not substitutes for supervision, even if a child can swim.