



NEWS RELEASE

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REFERENCE: SUMMER WATER SAFETY

CORONA FIRE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES WATER SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Corona, CA - Drowning is one of the leading causes of unintentional injury-related death for children 1 to 4 years of age. In 2008, there were a total of seven (7) drowning or near-drowning incidents in the City of Corona. This year, there have already been eight (8) reported instances of drowning or near-drowning within the City. Due to the increase, the City is launching a Water Safety campaign to remind residents of the importance of practicing water safety habits.

While home swimming pools and spas offer years of fun and healthy activity for families, they can also be a significant threat to young children. The vast majority of children who drown in home pools were not expected to be in or around the pool. During the hot summer months, when so many plan to be in, on, or near the water, it is important to follow the basics of water safety such as maintaining constant supervision, knowing how to respond to an aquatic emergency, and when to call 9-1-1. Having approved fencing around pools and spas and/or safety covers is also critical. Water safety awareness and education saves lives.

To promote water safety awareness, the City of Corona Parks and Community Services Department is hosting Family Swim and Safety Nights. Bring your family to the City Park Pool (930 E. Sixth Street) on the following Thursday nights: July 9, 16, 23 and 30th, from 7:15 pm to 9:15 pm. At the beginning of each night, there will be a 20-minute safety demonstration on water safety, CPR, First Aid and Heat Safety. The activity fee for ages youth to 15 years is \$1.00 and \$2.00 for ages 16 and older.

The City will also be providing water safety information on the City's website at www.DiscoverCorona.com and the City's social networking pages. The American Red Cross Health and Safety division also offers training in water safety and more information can be obtained by contacting them at (888) 831-0031 or online at <http://www.RiversideCounty.RedCross.org>.

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