

Police Department

Nannette H. Hegerty Chief of Police

April 24, 2006

Dear School Principal:

Drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional deaths among children 1 to 14 years of age, throughout the State of Wisconsin. Drownings usually occur swiftly and without a sound. The Milwaukee community was saddened a couple of years ago when two young sisters drowned tragically in the Milwaukee River, and now once again by the deaths of two young boys, Purvis Parker age 11, and Quadrevion Henning age 12, who drowned in the Milwaukee McGovern Park lagoon of an accidental drowning. ¹

With the fascination of water, children tend to go near rivers, creeks, and other waterways. Since the weather is getting warmer, children will be outside and apt to be in swimming pools or near bodies of water, which can pose a potential safety hazard when not supervised by a "Designated Adult". A "Designated Adult" is a person who is: responsible by providing constant supervision for children near or in water; someone who is a trained swimmer; someone who knows the water environment and has safety gear present at all time; and has access to call 911 when faced with someone who has trouble in the water.

As educators within the schools, we implore you to go over this water safety message, teachers guide and handouts with students. The City of Milwaukee cannot afford to see senseless drownings, such as these, so we reach out to you, our direct link to the children, and ask you to go over this material with your students before the 2005- 2006 academic school year ends.

The following programs and a list of their contents have been delivered to your school:

- ⇒ Water Safety Teachers Guide
- ⇒ Water Safety Pamphlets and Brochures
- ⇒ Water Safety Activity Sheets

Staff and Parents: The water safety pamphlet, "What Parents Should Know About Children and Water Safety" is provided for you and is available in quantity by filling out the order blank enclosed. In addition, the Milwaukee Water Safety Task Force, which is a collaboration of agencies that focuses on water safety education for children and parents, has also enclosed a flyer of water safety tips. These flyers may be copied for distribution, along with any water safety material provided.

Police Administration Building, 749 West State Street, Post Office Box 531, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-0531 (414) 933-4444 Web Site: http://www.milwaukeepolice.org

¹ Bob Purvis. April 16, 2006. "Long Search Comes To Tragic End". A1. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Newspaper.

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If you have any questions, please call the Safety Division at (414) 935-7990. Thank you for your commitment and cooperation in the safety of our children.

Sincerely,

NANNETTE H. HEGERTY

CHIEF OF POLICE

FLÖRENCE H. DUKES SAFETY DIRECTOR

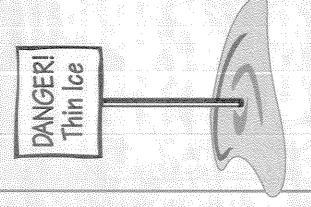
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If you see a personal flatation device, throw It into the water to the person. Remember.

TWO WOLL ON

- Do not participate in unorganized water activities on frozen waters, such as lakes, rivers, and large bodies Fozon Waters:
- Do not walk, bike, or ride in any motorized vehicles on frozen bodies of water.

of water.

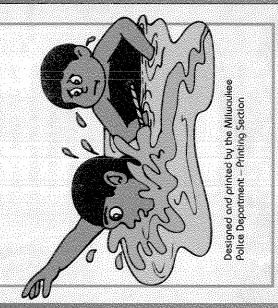


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it takes to answer the phone, a child can drown in: Keep in mind that in the time

- Both tubsBuckets of Water
- FolletsPools and SpasWater on Pool CoversWading Pools
- **Rivers or Doms**
- Ponds and Lagoons

hints, please contact the Safety Division Office at (414) 935-7990. For other helpful water safety www.milwaukeepolice.org



PSD52 - 07/05

What Parents Should Know



REGOLF CHILDREN

provide good exercise for children, and be a good source of recreation involving children and adults. Water activities can be fun,

result in an unintentional drouning. gear being used, these factors can water environment or no safety supervision, being in an unsafe But when there is a lack of

needed by a "Designated Adult" when young children are in tubs of water, on boats, in swimming pools, or near open bodies of Active supervision is what is water to help prevent an unintentional drouning.

when children are near or in water. has the appropriate skills needed following are 4 tips to remember to ensure the "Designated Adult"

i. Be Responsible:

Provide constant supervision when children are near or in water. Do not engage in distracting behavior.



and Child CPR. (Local American safety certified agency might Red Cross or any other water Have appropriate swimming skills, and training on Infant offer training).

and have Safety Gear present: Know the Water Environment N.

- layers of protection around the available. (Ex In Pools, boats or water environment you are in including appropriate signage Make sure there are multiple and emergency equipment near bodies of water).
- gear such as Personal Flotation Have proper safety swimming Devices (PFD's) approved by near open bodies of water, everyone on boats, in or or participating in water the U.S. Coast Guard for sports or activities.
- are prohibited from entering When pools are closed, you after hours.

4. Emergencies CALL 911:

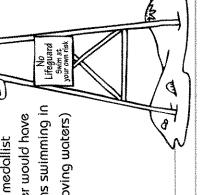
• If someone is in trouble in the water call 911.

About Running Waters and Uhat Should I Know Frozen Woters?

Auning Waters:

of a hazard after a heavy rainfall. Rivers and Channels pose more

- how strong the current might be. (Ex. A road that is filled with Many people who live near bodies of water do not think of motor vehicle a long distance). them as hazardous or realize running water could carry a
- is no lifeguard present, then it play near water, especially after Do not let children or teenagers a rainfall when water levels are Always keep in mind; if there high and currents are strong.
 - may not be a safe place to swim. Do not go into swift-moving (Do not go in or try to swim). waters to rescue someone (A gold medallist Always Call 911!
- problems swimming in swift-moving waters) swimmer would have



Splash-into-safety!

WATER SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR KIDS

- Always swim with a buddy.
- Never run, push, or jump on others around water.
- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket when you are in or near an open body of water, a boat, or when participating in water sports.
- Inflatable inner tubes and "water wings" are not safety devices.
- Learn how to swim.
- Swim only within designated safe areas of rivers, lakes and oceans.
- Never dive into a river, lake, or ocean.



founding sponsor Johnnon Johnnon

Visit www.safekids.org for more information!

A Teacher's Guide for

WATER SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS



For Grade Levels K5 through 8TH

CITY OF MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT SAFETY DIVISION MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

6680 N. Teutonia Avenue Milwaukee WI 53209 (414) 935-7990

NANNETTE H. HEGERTY CHIEF OF POLICE

INTRODUCTION

In the City of Milwaukee this year, two more of our children died of accidental drownings, Purvis Parker age 11, and Quadrevion Henning age 12. These two young boys represent children who have drowned in the State of Wisconsin, as the second leading cause of deaths among children ages 1 to 14.

Therefore, it is important that you help us educate Milwaukee's youth on water safety.

MATERIALS INCLUDED

We are providing a teaching strategy on how to educate children on the importance of water safety rules, with questions and answers, suggested activities, activity sheets, a "Water Safety Teachers Guide", and "Water Safety Tips for Students". The materials we have provided for you will help children recognize things they should not do and who to call when someone is having trouble in the water.

TEACHING STRATEGY

As the educator, please review these following steps to ensure the Lesson Plan is followed:

- 1. Review "Following Water Safety Teacher's Guide.
- 2. Then Review Lessons with students.
- 3. Confirm that the students have a foundation on the water safety rules.
- 4. Stimulate classroom discussion with questions and answers with students.
- 5. Water Safety Activity Sheets are also provided.

Objectives:

- A. To develop an understanding that knowing how to swim is important.
- B. To develop an understanding that you should always swim in a supervised area.
- C. To develop an understanding that you show know the water environment you are in.
- D. To develop an understanding that you should always wear safety gear when in bodies of water.
- E. To develop an understanding that you should always look before you leap (look before you enter any body of water).
- F. To develop an understanding to never go near bodies of water after a rainfall.
- G. To develop an understanding that you should always throw a life jacket to someone who is having trouble in the water and never jump in to try and save him or her, but Call 911!

Methods and Procedures

- In order to make this water safety program more effective and timely, it is suggested that the material be presented in the Spring.
- Present vocabulary through classroom discussion, visual aids and outdoor experiences.
- This teachers guide ranges from ages K5 to 8th Grade, please adapt language and activities to appropriate age group and skills.
- Use the Water Safety Teacher's guide as a basis for daily instruction. Teach one concept at a time.
 - LESSON 1 Know How To Swim
 - LESSON 2 Always Swim In A Supervised Area
 - LESSON 3 Know The Water Environment
 - LESSON 4 Always Wear Your Safety Gear When In Bodies Of Water
 - LESSON 5 Look Before You Leap!
 - LESSON 6 Safety Hazards of Rivers and Channels after Heavy Rainfalls and Do Not Play on Frozen Waters.
 - LESSON 7- Throw! Don't Go. Call 911!
- Allow time for question and answers after each lesson. To ensure children have acquired basic knowledge for their age appropriate group of each lesson.
- Water Safety activity sheets have been provided. F.

Vocabulary

The following words represent the basic vocabulary needed to comprehend the material presented in the water safety lessons.

"Designated Adult"	Lifeguard	Safety Gear
Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's)	Channels	Ocean
Rivers	Lake	Frozen Waters

General Water Safety Tips For Students: Follow these general water safety tips whenever swimming in a body of water (pools, lakes, ponds, quarries, canals, rivers or oceans):2

² American Red Cross. (2004). "Raffy Learns To Swim", Waddles and Friends. Yardley, PA Staywell Press. Pgs. 5 & 6.



LESSON 1 - KNOW HOW TO SWIM

Concept to be taught: Only get in the water if you know how to swim, where a lifeguard or designated adult is present, and someone to swim with (buddy).

1. What would be a supervised area to swim in?

- a. Ex. Pool where a lifeguard is on duty and is present at the pool.
- b. Ex. In the backyard where mom or dad knows how to swim and is the designated adult that is constantly watching.

2. Where do I find out where I can learn to swim?

- a. At a local YMCA, a Summer MPS Division of Recreation and Community Services Division Swim program, Milwaukee County Parks Pool or your local American Red Cross.
- b. Milwaukee's Water Safety Task Force Summer Activities List can be duplicated and provided for children to take home to parents.

3. Give an example of buddies to swim with?

a. Someone else who knows how to swim.

RULES:

- ❖ If you don't know how to swim, don't go in.
- * Only swim in a supervised swim area. (Ex. Certified Life Guard and/or Swim Instructor is present)
- * Swim with a buddy. Always swim with someone, a friend who knows how to swim, a parent, and/or guardian.

Follow-up activities:

- 1. Have children K5-3rd discuss why they should be supervised at all times by someone who knows how to swim, and the importance of learning how to swim.

 2. Have children 4th thru 8th grade develop short stories on Lesson 1.

LESSON 2 – ALWAYS SWIM IN A SUPERVISED AREA

Concept to be taught: Always swim in a supervised area where there is a lifeguard, parent and/or Designated Adult present.

1. Who is a lifeguard? (A person who is a certified swimmer, and can help if someone is having trouble in the water.)

2. Can a parent be considered a Designated Adult? (Yes, a designated adult is anyone who is a trained swimmer and is constantly watching you in the water)

3. If, I am swimming in my pool in the backyard should someone be watching me? Yes, a parent or guardian at all times.

4. Should I swim by myself? No, always have a buddy present who knows how to swim, a lifeguard who is on duty at a public pool, or a designated adult present if you are at home in the backyard.

RULES:

- ★ Make sure one of the people mentioned above is always present, IF, NOT, DON'T GO IN!
- ❖ When it comes to swimming in a body of water, or at a local public pool, make sure there is a certified lifeguard present.

Follow-up activities:

- 1. For younger students have them draw a picture swimming with their buddy and mom, dad or a designated adult present watching.
- 2. For older students quiz them on the two rules that are is in Lesson 2 and who can make a good "Designated Adult". Ex. Designated adult would now how to swim, know personal water safety techniques, signs of someone having trouble in water, always being responsible by providing constant supervision, etc.

LESSON 3 - KNOW THE WATER ENVIRONMENT

Concept to be taught: Know the water environment and have safety gear present.

- 1. Be familiar with your surroundings, know where the lifeguard, guardian, parent, or "Designated Adult" is at all times, just in case of an emergency.
- 2. Make sure there are multiple layers of protection around the water environment you are in. For example, gates, signage, etc. For example, there should be signs stating, if it is okay to swim in the water, hours you can swim, if a lifeguard is present, etc.
- 3. When pools are closed, you are prohibited from entering after hours. NO EXCEPTIONS!

RULES:

- ❖ If signs state: DO NOT SWIM, CLOSED, or DO NOT COME NEAR, do not enter the body of water.
- ❖ If a designated adult is not watching as you enter a private pool, do not enter the pool.

Follow-up activities:

- 1. Have K5 thru 3rd grade students bring in a paper grocery bag and draw a safe water environment based on Lesson 3. Check with local grocery stores for additional paper bags if needed. Also, ask local grocery stores if they would like to display the best three drawings in their store for a specific water safety week.
- 2. Have students 4th thru 8th grade form groups of four to five within classes. Each group has to come up with an art project reflecting Lesson 3, and explain to the class. Art projects can be art collages, posters, paintings, etc.

LESSON 4 – ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SAFETY GEAR WHEN IN BODIES OF WATER

Concept to be taught: Always wear your safety gear when in bodies of water.

- 1. Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket when you are in or near an open body of water, a boat, or when participating in water sports.
- 2. Toys such as inflatable inner tubes and "water wings" are not safety devices.
- 3. Make sure there are multiple layers of protection around the water environment you arein.

RULES:

Don't just have it, wear your Life Jacket!

Follow-up activities:

- 1. Show and Tell: K5 thru 8th grade. If someone has a certified life jacket have him or her bring it in to show the class and how they use the life jacket whenever swimming, so students can visually see, hear and touch.
- 2. Invite a speaker from the U.S. Coast Guard, American Red Cross or someone who is trained in the area of appropriate safety swim wear when in the water, to speak to the class on the importance of always wearing a life jacket.

LESSON 5 - LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

Concept to be taught: Never run, push or jump on others around water.

- 1. Never play near a river, lake or ocean.
- 2. Never dive into a river, lake or ocean.
- 3. Never play, dive, or swim in a residence pool without approval from the designated adult who lives there.

RULES:

❖ Think! So You Don't Sink.

Follow-up activities:

- 1. Have children K5 thru 3rd grade talk about situations they have been involved in with someone running, pushing or jumping in or around water. Have children discuss if there were any actions taken by the "Designated Adult" (knowledgeable swimmer) to correct the behavior. If no "Designated Adult or lifeguard was present, reinforce the importance of always being supervised near a body of water.
- 2. Have children 4th thru 8th grade talk about situations they have been involved in that involved someone running, pushing or jumping in or around water. Ask what could have been done differently to correct that behavior or what was done that corrected this behavior.

LESSON 6 - SAFETY HAZARDS OF RIVERS AND CHANNELS AFTER HEAVY RAINFALLS AND FROZEN WATERS

Concepts to be taught: Never go near bodies of water after a rainfall. Never play on frozen waters.

- 1. Never play near water, especially after a rainfall when water levels are high and currents are strong. Never play on frozen waters.
- 2. Do not participate in unorganized water activities on frozen waters, such as lakes, rivers, or large bodies of water.
- 3. Do not walk, bike, or ride in any motorized vehicles on frozen bodies of water.

RULES:

* Think! So You Don't Sink.

Follow-up activities:

1. For K5 thru 8th age students. Check out age appropriate video on the do and don't of swimming your local City of Milwaukee Library for children to view.

LESSON 7- Throw! Don't Go. Call 911!

Concept to be taught: If someone is drowning or is having trouble in the water, throw a Personal Flotation Device (PFD's) to them and then call 911. If a PFD is not available, immediately call 911 or find someone to call 911 for you.

- 1. Review what a Personal Flotation Device is using pictures which can be helpful to children who are still unaware of the technical word.
- 2. Get across to students that these devices, such as a life jacket, are used to help keep you afloat.
- 3. If a PDF is not available immediately, call 911 or find someone to call 911 for you. Don't go in!
- 4. Do not go into swift-moving waters to rescue someone. This includes rivers, channels, creeks, lagoons, lakes and oceans. Always Call 911! (A gold medal swimmer would have problems swimming in swift-moving waters or bodies of waters after a heavy rainfall.)

Note: This is one of the most important rules and lesson there is, so as the teacher, strongly advise students of Lesson number 6.

RULES:

❖ Throw a life jacket in and call 911. Throw! Don't Go. Call 911!

Follow-up activities:

- 1. For K5 thru 3rd grade students have a discussion on Lesson 6.
- 5. For 4th thru 8th grade students create a scenario where a friend is having trouble in the water and what should be done to resolve this situation. If appropriate, discuss recent drowning of Purvis Parker and Quadrevion Henning.

CONCLUSION

The material and Water Safety Lessons within this Teachers Guide will give students a basic understanding of water safety, but certified swimming instructions and aquatic classes are the best source for children to get hands on training, which includes an introduction to water skills, a sense of respect for bodies of water, and the dangers of bodies of water to children. For more information regarding water safety here is a list of agencies who are currently on the City of Milwaukee Water Safety Task Force that will be able to provide more water safety information.

Milwaukee Police Department Safety Divison (414) 935-7990

Milwaukee Fire Department (414) 286-8970

Milwaukee County Parks (414) 257-8098

Urban Ecology Center (414) 964-8505

Safe Kids Wisconsin (414) 765-9355

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee (414) 267-8100

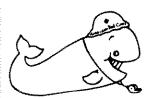
Injury Free Coalition For Kids Children's Health Education Center (414) 390-2174

American Red Cross (414) 342-8680

Milwaukee Public Schools Div. Of Recreation and Community Services (414) 475-8838

YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee (414) 265-9622 (1350 W. North Ave.) (414) 354-9622 (9050 N. Swan Rd.)

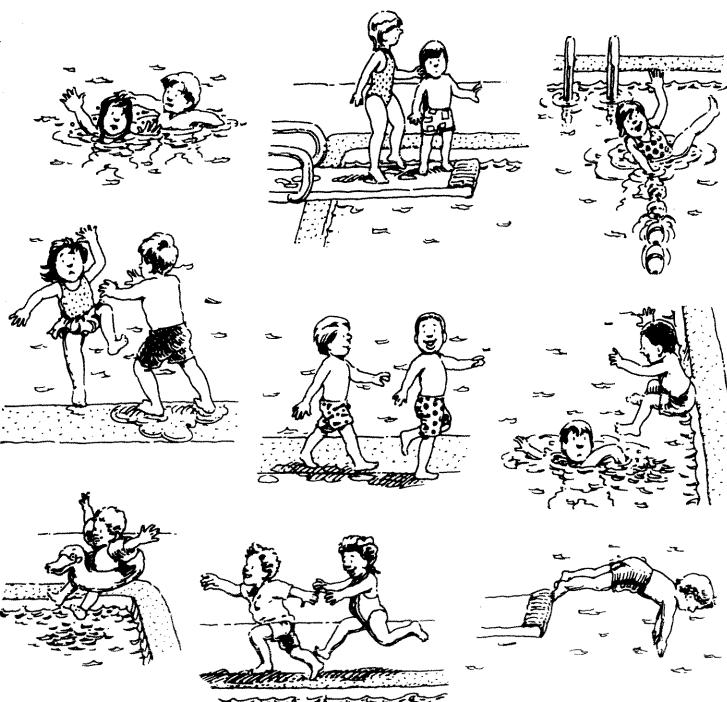




Name.

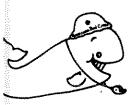
Show You Know

Put an X on the pictures that show children who have forgotten safe behavior at the pool.





Lesson 2	2 Be	Cool,	Follow	the	Rul
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lete to teachers: Depending on the level of our class, the students can liscuss the scenarios orally or hey can write the answers to he questions.

What Should You Do?

Prevention is an important part of water safety. Read the description of each situation below and think about how the accidents could have been prevented.

- 1. Jane and Sharon have just come out of the locker room and decide to race to the edge of the pool. Jane slips and falls, landing heavily on her elbow. What should she have done differently?
- 2. Bill and Jim are playing tag in the water. Bill climbs out and runs to the diving board. Jim follows quickly, jumps off the board, and lands on top of Bill. What should they have done differently?
- 3. Jason and some of his friends are taking turns jumping in the water from the side of the pool. Jason gets tired of waiting for his turn so he pushes his friend into the water. The friend is surprised and swallows some water. He starts to choke and cough. What should Jason have done differently?
- 4. Amanda and her little brother are getting ready to get in the water. The little brother puts on his arm floats. Amanda takes him into deep water. The arm floats start to lose air and he starts to sink. What should they have done differently?
- 5. Jack and Jill are walking along a river when Jill decides that she wants to go for a swim. She jumps in and is quickly swept downstream. What should she have done differently?

(C) A TY-1 Comm Vanding DA

Try to find the things that keep you safe in and around the water:

life vests (find all 4)
life guard
rope around the swimming area
swimming instructor
"NO DIVING" sign
ring buoy (this is a ring-shaped floatin
sunglasses
emergency telephone
first aid kit

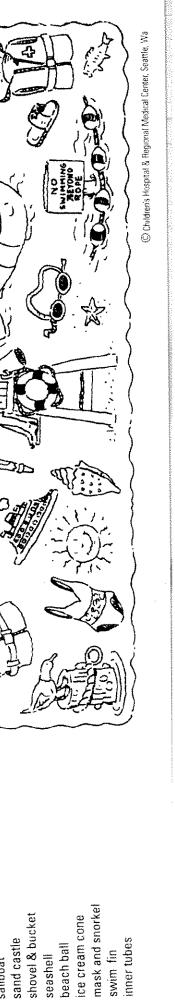
THE STATE OF THE S

rescue boat bottle of sunscreen sun hats (find all 3)

before? It's very important that you have one that fits well. Go try yours on to see if it still fits, or go to the store and find out which size you wear. Have you ever tried on a life vest

Now look for things that make the beach fun!

sailboat





and Health Syst

Drowning is the second leading cause of injury-related death among children ages 1 to 14 in Wisconsin.

Drowning usually occurs quickly and silently, happening in a matter of seconds. Most drownings happen in swimming pools and open bodies of water. The City of Milwaukee, the American Red Cross, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Park System, Milwaukee Fire Department, Milwaukee Public Schools Division of Recreation and Community Services, Safe Kids Wisconsin, YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee and the Urban Ecology Center all are part of the Milwaukee Water Safety Task Force. The task force is dedicated to creating an awareness of the importance of safe play around open bodies of water, specifically in three ZIP codes: 53208, 53212, and 53215.

The Water Safety Task Force encourages you to talk to children about the

4 steps to water safety:

1. Supervision.

Always be responsible and provide constant supervision when children are playing in or near water.

2. Learn to swim.

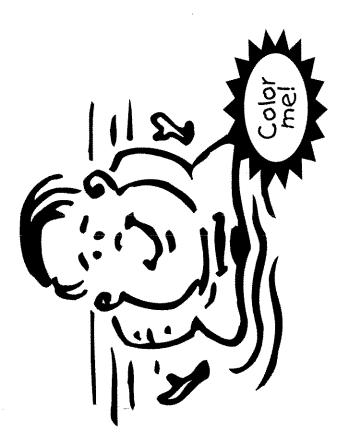
Learn how to swim and have kids learn to swim. Skills taught during swimming lessons can help children understand how to safely have fun in the water.

3. Play safe.

Teach children to always play in areas of water where lifeguards and adults are present. Never allow children to swim alone.

4. Get help.

If you come across someone in trouble in the water, teach children to call 911 and get an adult.



Milwaukee's Water Safety Task Force **Summer Activities List**

American Red Cross

Learn to Swim courses offer something for everybody, Red Cross courses are taught by certified Instructors. beginning at 6 months, as well as a wide range of lifelong fitness and personal safety skills. American The American Red Cross has been the leader in water safety training for more than 90 years. Our

When it comes to activities in, on or around the water, safety always comes first — and the American Red Cross offers trusted programs!

Recreation and Community Services Activity Guide See the Milwaukee Public Schools Division of for more information on Learn to Swim.

Injury Free® Coalition for Kids of Milwaukee

partnership of Children's Hospital and Health System, the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Robert the number of Milwaukee children being injured in specific neighborhoods with the highest rates of injury by providing education and services. For more Wood Johnson Foundation. Its goal is to reduce Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Milwaukee is a information, please call (414) 390-2174.

Milwaukee Public Schools Community Learning Centers (CLCs)

academic enrichment activities, sports, arts and crafts, playground games, field trips and summer meals. For learning. This free program will provide youth with CLCs will be open this summer for fun and more information, call (414) 475-8941.

Milwaukee County Parks Pools

Saturday morning swim lessons begin June 24 and are *free* for the first 60 who sign up, ages 6 - 12 years old. Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks and the Milwaukee Youth Sports Authority. Locations include:

Pelican Cove

(Kosciuszko Park, 2201 S. 7th St.) Washington Pool

(Washington Park, 1860 N. 40th St.)

(Lincoln Park, 1300 W. Glendale Ave.)

Lincoln Pool

The swimming season begins June 17 at the three pools. Contact the Aquatics Office at (414) 257-8098 for more information.

Recreation and Community Services Milwaukee Public Schools Division

of

lunch program. Free community swim is also available and open to the public. Class locations and times are for those families who receive the MPS free/reduced Guide, available at your local library or school. Our price of \$28 for 10 lessons is reduced to only \$14 MPS Recreation offers Learn to Swim programs for dive into one of the later sessions starting July 10 and July 24. Sign up with the form in our Activity everyone in the family at your local high school. Splash into our first session starting June 26 or www.milwaukeerecreation.net. Or call (414) 475-8838. also posted on our website:

Urban Ecology Center

Believing that our rivers and lakefront are gifts to the please call (414) 964-8505. Visit the Urban Ecology Center Web site at www.urbanecologycenter.org for summer programs and great safe kids summer community, the Urban Ecology Center promotes a connection to our waterways through safe, guided programs. For more information on our programs, adventures. Scholarships are available.

YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee

Go to any metro Milwaukee YMCA and register your child (age 5-12) for *Begin to Swim*, A YMCA water safety program offered *free* to the community from June 19-August 4. This program is a one-week course, Monday through Friday, at the following YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee sites:

Northside YMCA,

Call (414) 265-9622 John C. Cudahy YMCA 1350 W. North Ave.

Call (414)354-9622

9050 N. Swan Rd.

Always remember the

4 steps to water safety: Learn to swim. Supervision.

Play safe. Get help.

ORDER BLANK

Please send:	(quantity)	"What Parents Should Know About Children and Water Safety"	
Send to: Scho	ol:		
Addr	ess:		
City,	Zip	Phone:	
Atter	ntion:		
Return to:			

